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Japan

Official: GATT Accord by March 'Difficult'

OW0102070693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0652 GMT 1 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 1 KYODO—Japan's vice trade minister indicated Monday that it would be difficult to wrap up the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks before "fast track" authority for approval by the U.S. Congress expires March 1.

Yuji Tanahashi, vice minister of international trade and industry (MITI), said at a news conference, "the situation is severe for an early conclusion of the round, with the resumption of TNC (Trade Negotiations Committee) still yet to be set."

Asked for a comment on pessimism voiced by Arthur Dunkel, director general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), Tanahashi only said he did not know Dunkel's real intention.

However, Tanahashi expressed a personal view that Dunkel's statement might be meant to induce the U.S. Government to extend the "fast track" authority, by which an agreement approved by the president must be approved or rejected unamended by Congress.

At an annual World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, Dunkel said Friday it will be virtually impossible to reach an accord on the Round talks held under the GATT before the U.S. deadline of March 1.

Tanahashi suggested that still unclear trade policies of the U.S. new administration of President Bill Clinton could have blurred the prospects of promptly concluding the 108-nation trade talks.

Meanwhile, touching on growing expectations for a cut in the official discount rate, Tanahashi said his ministry has hopes of an appropriate and timely decision by the Bank of Japan.

Measures Against U.S. Dumping Duties Denied

OW0102073593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0725 GMT 1 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 1 KYODO—Japan will continue applying "impartial" antidumping measures to cope with "trade-distorting imports" from foreign companies, the vice trade minister said Monday.

Vice International Trade and Industry Minister Yuji Tanahashi told reporters that Japan will resort to antidumping duties, if necessary, based on whether imports are being sold at unfairly low prices or are damaging the relevant domestic industry.

Tanahashi's comments followed the government decision Friday to impose antidumping duties on ferrosilicon manganese imported from China, which was the first time Japan has set such duties on imports.

Tanahashi said antidumping tariffs are legal measures and consistent with the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Meanwhile, regarding the U.S. Government's preliminary decision to impose penalties on steel imports from Japan and 18 other countries, Tanahashi said, "We will continue seeking to reach a multilateral steel agreement."

Tanahashi denied Japan will take any specific bilateral action against the U.S. antidumping duties, despite emerging moves to collect punitive tariffs, to file a complaint to a GATT panel or to start bilateral negotiations with Canada, Brazil and the European Community (EC) nations.

Defense Advisor Interviewed on U.S. Okinawa Bases

OW2901130893 Naha RYUKYU SHIMPO in Japanese 22 Jan 93 Morning Edition p 3

[Summary of interview by correspondent Ayako Hirata with Seiki Nishihiro, advisor to the Defense Agency [DA], on Bill Clinton's policy on U.S. military bases on Okinawa; date and place not given]

[Text] [Hirata] Do you think that U.S. bases on Okinawa will be curtailed under the Clinton government?

[Nishihiro] We are not supposed to expect an immediate reduction of the U.S. Forces [USF] in Asia even though Mr. Clinton has been inaugurated as the U.S. President. So far, the U.S. Government has not revealed any arms reduction plan except the one in Europe. While the Bush administration planned a 150,000-man troop cut in Europe, the Clinton administration is planning to make it around 75,000-100,000. Obviously, the Clinton administration has lowered the tone. Moreover, they have not said anything about Asia.

[Hirata] Do you mean there will be no change in the near future?

[Nishihiro] I don't think so. There are two reasons. First, the conclusion of the cold war does not have a direct conection with U.S. strategies in Asia. The cold war used to bring about a tense situation in Asia in its early stage when the United States was confronting China. The U.S.-China antagonism was settled through the 1972 reversion of Okinawa. Nowadays, the primary role of the USF Okinawa is not to confront China or the [former] Soviet Union, but to swiftly deal with military conflicts in broader areas. Under such circumstances, there would be no immediate changes in USF deployment on Okinawa.

Second, the aftereffect of the cold war still remains on the Korean peninsula. The USF are unlikely to leave Okinawa before a definite trend is seen in the Korean peninsula issue. Meanwhile, the United States wants to reduce troops intended for some specific enemies. The

USF in the ROK may be reduced, or, if that is impossible, the United States would urge the ROK to bear a heavier burden in maintaining the USF in the ROK. In this sense, U.S. troop cuts in Asia are likely to begin in the ROK. Regarding Okinawa, U.S. troops may be reduced over a longer span. For instance, the Clinton administration has said that the United States has to reinforce military power to cope with incidents like the Gulf war. The USF on Okinawa is such a military power. On the other hand, no one can predict where such incidents will take place. The USF have a plan to improve their transport capability. When they obtain better transport systems, they will not have to maintain huge front- line forces. In this sense, U.S. troops may be reduced as the USF obtains improved transport systems. But it will not happen immediately since the process has just started.

[Hirata] You said the USF may be reduced over a longer span. How long will it take?

[Nishihiro] It depends on how much the United States spends on defense hereafter because the USF have to buy aircraft and vessels in line with troop cuts. I guess it may take around 10 years.

[Hirata] For the USF, what will be Okinawa's significance in the post-cold war period?

[Nishihiro] I have just explained my view on this point. The United States will maintain its current stance of regarding its military forces as a preparation for uncertainty in broader areas rather than something like anti-Soviet forces in the cold war period. At first, I thought the U.S. Marines, except for heavily-equipped units, were going to leave Asia. But it may not happen since President Clinton recently said the Marines should be reinforced to cope swiftly with possible military conflicts.

[Hirata] Three years ago, the United States announced a 10-year troop cut program in the East Asia strategy plan. Do you think the new U.S. leaders have revised the plan after that?

[Nishihiro] Although the Korean peninsula issue is currently deadlocked, they want to pull out from Korea as soon as the situation makes favorable turns. I think they will eventually leave Korea.

[Hirata] How do you rate U.S. Defense Secretary Les Aspin?

[Nishihiro] Mr. Aspin's way of thinking is not like a military specialist but like a politician.

[Hirata] What would be his stance toward curtailment of U.S. bases overseas?

[Nishihiro] Both Mr. Aspin and Mr. Clinton have said that U.S. military forces should be accumulated at need. I do not know what that actually means, but it is believed that the new U.S. Administration is seeking the military capability to cope with two regional incidents like the Gulf war in different places. In addition, the USF are expected to handle other limited operations like one in Panama at the same time.

[Hirata] Do you think bases on Okinawa may be used as logistics bases for UN peacekeeping operations after U.S. withdrawal?

[Nishihiro] That may be possible only when the frontline military forces of the United States are merged into permanent UN forces.

Notice Protests U.S. Troop Housing Project

OW2901162793 Tokyo KYODO in English 1425 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Yokohama, Jan. 29 KYODO—The Zushi municipal Government will turn back to the government a document outlining the housing construction project for U.S. military personnel as protest, city officials said Friday.

The document, called a project notice, was given to city officials January 22 by the local bureau of the Defense Facilities Administration Agency, which hopes to soften the city's long opposition to the project, they said.

The city authorities will return the document February 1 to the agency's Yokohama bureau, they said.

Laws mandate that the notice be delivered to the Kanagawa prefectural government, where Zushi lies, before the start of construction, as the prefectural authorities are legally empowered to approve or disapprove the project.

Under government regulations, government ministries and agencies are obliged to give city authorities an opportunity to examine the outline of a project before handing the project notice to prefectural authorities.

On January 22, the Yokohama bureau asked the city of Zushi to examine the project notice and then pass the document to the prefectural authorities.

The city has long objected to the project, saying that it would lead to the devastation of a large forest at the construction site—one of the few remaining green tracts of land in the vicinity of Tokyo. The proposed site was the U.S. Forces' Ikego ammunitions depot until 1978.

Whatever the city's response may be, the Defense Facilities Administration Bureau will present the notice to the prefectural authorities seeking their endorsement, agency officials said.

The prefectural authorities are in favor of the project.

Under Japan-U.S. mutual defense arrangements, Japan is obligated to provide housing facilities to the U.S. troops stationed in the country.

The Zushi project is intended to house 920 families assigned to the U.S. naval station Yokosuka. The first phase of the project calls for the construction of 112 housing units.

Watanabe Comments on U.S.-Chinese Relations

OW0102095793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0941 GMT 1 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 1 KYODO—Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe said Monday he will urge the United States not to discontinue China's Most-Favored Nation (MFN) trading status when he visits Washington later this month.

Foreign Ministry officials said Watanabe, who will be visiting Washington from February 11 to 14, made the remark in a meeting with outgoing Chinese Ambassador to Japan Yang Zhenya.

Watanabe was also quoted as saying he will stress to the new administration of President Bill Clinton that a change in China's MFN status would have an adverse effect on other countries.

One official said the request was in line with Watanabe's own view that "politics and economics should not be mixed."

China's MFN status expires in June. Last year, then President George Bush vetoed congressional attempts to link reauthorization to China's human rights performance, military exports and allegedly unfair trade policies.

The Clinton administration has pledged to review U.S. Government policy on China. Secretary of State Warren Christopher has said the U.S. will combine "creative diplomacy" with MFN status as leverages to bring about changes in China.

Officials said Yang, who returns to China in early June after almost five years in Japan, asked Watanabe to keep in mind the importance China places on its ties with the U.S. when he visits Washington.

But they said Watanabe was not explicitly asked to convey that message to the Clinton administration.

While Watanabe lauded the state of bilateral economic ties, officials said, he urged China to avoid making abrupt changes in regulations, saying mutual trust between the two countries' private sectors is needed for trade to flourish.

Yang, having already been elected as a delegate to the National People's Congress, is expected to be selected as a member of its standing committee and foreign affairs committee when the congress meets in March.

Tokyo To Assist Russia in Warhead Disposal

OW3101075093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0731 GMT 31 Jan 93

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 31 KYODO—Japan will assist in the disposal of radioactive components from dismantled nuclear warheads in the former Soviet Union, but is wary of giving monetary aid for the process, Foreign Ministry sources said Sunday.

The sources said that the government thinks Japan should not be directly involved in the dismantling of the nuclear warheads set by the START II nuclear arms reduction treaty.

Russian President Boris Yeltsin and former U.S. President George Bush signed the treaty January 3, agreeing to cut their nuclear missile stocks to about a third of the current approximately 10,000 in each country by 2003.

Because of a shortage of funds in Russia, the sources said they expect Russia to ask Japan for financial assistance in the dismantling process.

They said one immediate area where the government is likely to offer Japanese expertise is in the safe disposal of nuclear waste material from the warheads and in the monitoring of radioactive contamination.

Because of a bilateral territorial dispute over four islands to Japan's north which the former Soviet Union seized at the end of World War II, the Japanese Government has maintained it is unwilling to offer large amounts of monetary assistance to Russia.

Japan has also taken the view that the disposal of nuclear weapons is basically the responsibility of the country which possesses them.

The matter is likely to be a major topic for discussion at the July summit of leaders of the seven major industrialized nations in Tokyo.

Russia Urged To Clarify Intentions in Asia

OW0102084993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0840 GMT 1 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 1 Kyodo—Japan would like Russia to be more succinct about its intentions in Asia, the top government spokesman said Monday.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono made the remark in response to Russian President Boris Yeltsin's suggestion made before India's Parliament Friday that New Delhi tighten its relations with Beijing so that the three countries can act as a force of global stability.

"We would like to know more clearly what sort of interest (Moscow) has in Japan and ASEAN," the six-nation Association of Southeast Asian Nations, Kono said.

Yeltsin abruptly called off his first presidential visit to Tokyo last fall and later accused Japan of being too stubborn over a longstanding territorial dispute. Yeltsin has since visited China and South Korea.

Kono said at a daily news conference that close relations between Russia and India are a favorable development if they serve the interests of the two countries.

Japan has reserved comment on Yeltsin's pledge to proceed with an agreement to supply India with rocket engines that has drawn criticism from the United States.

Washington contends that Russia would violate the missile control technology regime if it follows through with the 230 million dollar deal.

India maintains its space program is strictly for peaceful purposes.

Tokyo To Reschedule Brazilian Debt

OW2901162893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1423 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 29 KYODO—Japan will allow rescheduling of Brazil's 284.7 billion yen official debts to Japan, the forth debt rescue measure by Tokyo for the debtor and the largest in scale, government officials said Friday.

The two governments earlier in the day signed the rescheduling agreement, which is in line with an accord reached in February last year at the meeting of the Paris Club of major creditors.

The Paris Club agreement calls for a grace period until June 1995 on both principal and interest payments on the Brazilian debts, whose repayments are currently due at the end of August, on certain conditions.

The debts to be rescheduled include 200.6 billion yen in trade insurance, 77.7 billion yen loans by the Export-Import Bank of Japan, and 4.8 billion yen in yen loans.

Tokyo 'Considering' UN Peacekeeping in Somalia

OW0102111893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1108 GMT 1 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 1 KYODO—Japan is actively considering participation by its military forces in an anticipated UN peacekeeping operation in Somalia once peace has been secured there, a Foreign Ministry source said Monday.

But the source said participation by Japan's Self-Defense Forces (SDF) depends on the type of operation to which the world body agrees to take over from the U.S.-led forces in Somalia.

He said SDF participation would not be possible if the future operation is of a heavily armed nature.

Ministry officials have said Japan is also considering having the SDF join a UN peacekeeping operation expected to be set up in Mozambique.

Parliamentary Vice Foreign Minister Koji Kakizawa left Tokyo last week to visit both Somalia and Mozambique to examine Japan's options. He will return home February 8.

Ministry Sources Comment on Issue

OW0102124593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1230 GMT 1 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 1 KYODO—Japan cannot participate in a more heavily armed United Nations peacemaking [as received] force proposed by U.N. Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali but plans to join debate on the proposal, Foreign Ministry sources said Monday.

The government will make clear its view when Butrus-Ghali visits Japan on February 15, the sources said.

Although Japan cannot join such a peacemaking force because of constitutional limitations, "there is no reason to oppose the proposal just because" it cannot participate in it, they said.

Article 9 of Japan's Constitution bans the use of force to settle international disputes.

Although Japan enacted a law in 1992 empowering a limited overseas deployment of its military to assist U.N. peacekeeping operations, a legal provision bans its peacekeepers from joining activities that may involve the use of force.

Miyazawa had earlier told the Diet that whether Tokyo would participate in such a force "falls into a different category" from that of whether Japan will join the debate on its creation.

But Tokyo decided to make clear its position on the matter so as not to be "isolated" from the international community, especially as it is angling for permanent membership of the U.N. Security Council.

LDP, Opposition Discuss 'Urgent Issues'

OW3101121993

[Editorial Report] Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese at 0000 GMT on 24 January broadcasts a live, 90-minute round table discussion entitled: "How Should the Diet Deal With Issues Concerning the Economy, Political Reform, and the Constitution?" Taking part in the round table are Chief Cabinet Secretary Kono Yohei; Seiroku Kajiyama, secretary general of the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP]; Hirotaka Akamatsu, newly-appointed secretary general of the Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ]; Yuichi Ichikawa, secretary general of Komeito; Shii Kazuo, secretary general of the Japan Communist Party [JCP]; and Takashi Yonezawa, secretary general of the Democratic Socialist Party [DSP]. The program is moderated by NHK commentator Korehito Obama.

Obama first touches on the urgent issues to be discussed at the 126th ordinary Diet session convened on 22

January. These include Japan's international contributions, economic pump-priming measures, and the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin scandal.

The discussion begins with Obama asking the participants for their thoughts on the Diet policy speech delivered by Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa.

Kajiyama says: "The speech showed the prime minister's firm determination to overcome current economic difficulties through Diet deliberations." Akamatsu says: "The speech touched every issue, but failed to indicate specifically how the Miyazawa administration is going to tackle these issues." Ichikawa, Shii, and Yonezawa each comment, agreeing with Akamatsu.

Kono is asked what he thinks of the opposition's criticism of Miyazawa's policy speech. He says: "Policy speeches at the outset of Diet sessions tend to touch every issue to satisfy everybody and this is inevitable. But I think Prime Minister Miyazawa clearly indicated in his speech what the Diet should discuss; namely Japan's contributions to the international community, measures to help us become a life-style superpower, political reform, and economic recovery measures. Opposition parties criticize the prime minister's policy speech by saying it lacks specific measures to tackle urgent problems. But specific measures can be worked out only when budgetary endorsement is available. Therefore, I ask Diet members to draw up specific measures through budget deliberations."

The discussion moves on to the issues before the ordinary Diet session. Asked how the LDP intends to promote Japan's international contributions, Kajiyama refers to Japan's contribution to peacekeeping operations in Cambodia and says: "Japan has to be flexible in contributing to the international community which has been undergoing changes in the post-cold war era."

Akamatsu says: "Our party thinks Japan should promote international contributions more actively than other countries within the framework of Japan's pacifist Constitution. We believe Asian countries and the rest of the world expect Japan to do so."

Ichikawa notes the need for Japan to make efforts to secure world peace as a major economic power, but warns that revision of the Constitution should not be treated as a premise for Japan's international contributions. Shii says Japan should review Japanese-U.S. security arrangements and drastically cut defense spending, using the money saved to help countries suffering from poverty or starvation.

Kono listens to the other participants as they agree on the need for Japan to make international contributions. He then says: "The world is currently faced with various problems; namely, Russia's unstable situation, a proliferation of weapons, regional conflicts, issues concerned with developing countries, and recession in major countries. Japan should discuss how it can cooperate with other nations in solving these problems."

Obama asks how the LDP plans to promote such discussions and Kajiyama cites constitutional problems that hinder Japan from making a sufficient international contribution. He says: "We should thoroughly discuss an issue of how the UN Peacekeeping Operations Cooperation Law can be coordinated with the Constitution."

After stressing the fact the SDPJ supports Japan's making international contributions, Akamatsu points out constitutional problems which make it difficult to let the Self-Defense Forces [SDF] participate with UN peacekeeping forces. He says: "We have a pacifist Constitution, so the fact the SDF is heavily armed means it is unconstitutional. However, as the SDF exists, we have to admit that existence. The SDPJ promotes fundamental discussions on ways to send SDF personnel overseas for peacekeeping operations in a way that it does not run counter to the Constitution."

Obama next introduces the topic of economic recovery measures. He says some people believe early passage of the 1993 budget is essential for economic recovery, and asks Ichikawa what he thinks about it.

Ichikawa says: "Komeito does not think the government's draft 1993 budget will be effective in stimulating the economy. It is an inappropriate budget plan which has been compiled based on the government's misreading of economic trends. According to the budget plan, the government intends to boost the economy only through implementation of public works projects. Our position is that as the economy has become so inactive, the government should implement a 4 to 5 trillion-yen tax reduction."

Yonezawa agrees with the point, saying: "The government has misread economic trends and its economy-boosting measures have not been implemented in a timely manner."

Obama asks Kajiyama to comment on these views.

Kaiyama says: "I think their view is correct that the government was too optimistic in its prospects for the economic growth. But, I also think the government's economic recovery measures implemented since last summer have created a foundation for economic recovery. Also, as we are still in a recession, the passage of the fiscal 1993 budget plan is urgently needed."

Shii says he hopes the government will first take measures to boost consumer spending, including a tax reduction, to help the economy recover.

Akamatsu says: "The economy will not recover without public works projects and without measures to increase consumer spending. From this viewpoint, we think an income tax cut of about 4 to 5 trillion yen is necessary."

Kono says: "It is necessary for the government to implement pump-priming measures with the backing of steady consumer spending. Simply pouring out money will not help the economy recover. Of course, there are many things the government should do to boost the economy.

The government placed top priority on pump-priming measures when it compiled the 1993 budget plan. It appropriated a large amount of funds for economic recovery."

Kajiyama again notes that after adopting the 1993 budget at an early date, new economy-boosting measures, including a tax reduction, should be considered. Akamatsu responds to this comment, saying: "We should discuss further in the Diet the sort of measures and size of budget needed for economic recovery and revise the government's budget plan if necessary. I have heard the majority of LDP members also support the idea of an income tax cut. If so, the views of the ruling and opposition parties are not so different and this should make our discussions smooth."

Obama asks Ichikawa whether Komeito also seeks revision of the government's budget plan and its calls for an income tax cut. Ichikawa says: "Yes, our party seeks the revision," and he notes that the government's understanding of the current economic situation differs very much from Komeito's.

He then refers to specific economic data on the state of the Japanese recession and says: "A tax reduction alone will not be enough to boost the economy. But because this is the only measure the government can implement now, we are urging it to do so immediately."

After hearing the other views, Kono says: "The government believes that the 10.7 trillion-yen economic recovery package it implemented last year will bring about the desired effects within a few months. It also believes that if the 1993 budget plan passes the Diet at an early date and the government can implement it at the beginning of the fiscal year 1993, Japan will be able to gradually recover from the current recession. This being the case, it can hardly comply with the call to issue the deficit-covering bonds needed to implement a 4 to 5 trillion-yen income tax cut."

Shii agrees the government should not depend on deficit-covering bonds and notes the need for the government to secure necessary funds through other means, such as by cutting defense spending, and specifically cutting the spending needed to procure such equipment as AWACS airplanes.

Yonezawa asks the government to "be flexible in discussing and revising its budget plan." He says: "Otherwise, the Diet session will be in confusion."

Ichikawa says that although the issue of deficit bonds is not desirable, the current situation requires it because the recession is so severe.

Akamatsu comments on Kono's view of the current economic situation, saying: "I understand Mr. Kono thinks that an income tax reduction is unnecessary. It is regrettable a member of the Miyazawa administration sees the current economic trend that way. Unlike Mr. Kono, I think the current situation is very severe."

Kono again notes the need to pass the government's budget plan immediately and implement economic recovery measures at the beginning of fiscal 1993. He says: "Implementing a tax cut and issuing deficit bonds are probably not such bad ideas, but what we have to question is whether they would really bring about the desired results."

Obama next asks the participants to discuss the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin scandal. Shii stresses the importance of conducting a thorough investigation of the scandal for the sake of political reform.

Yonezawa notes a need to tackle the Sagawa Kyubin scandal in parallel with the political reform at the ordinary Diet session, and he proposes establishing a special Diet committee to investigate it.

Akamatsu says: "The Sagawa issue should be discussed by the Diet's budget committee first. The SDPJ disagrees with the idea of discussing it at a special committee from the start."

Ichikawa agrees with Akamatsu. Kajiyama notes the difficulty of unearthing all the facts of the scandal, saying: "Investigations conducted so far reveal two important facts; namely that 500 million yen was illegally donated to Mr. Kanemaru, and that an organized crime syndicate was involved in the Kominto incident. Now what the Diet must do is discuss measures to prevent such irregularities. It is wrong to promote only an investigation while failing to take any measures to prevent a recurrence."

Obama switches to the issue of political reform. Shii says corporate donations to political parties should be banned and the disparity in value of a vote should be rectified to promote political reform.

Kajiyama touches on the results achieved through discussions last year by a special committee on political reform, and stresses the significance of resuming the committee's work this year. He says: "Each party should engage in candid discussions on measures to promote political reform, and each should work out their respective reform measures."

Ichikawa criticizes the JCP for its uncooperative attitude toward discussions on political reform. Akamatsu says: "The SDPJ hopes there will be discussion not only of the introduction of single-seat constituencies, but also the issue of political funds." He also notes a need for opposition parties to produce their counterreform measures and to discuss them in public.

Asked how the government intends to deal with the political reform issue, Kono says: "The government is tackling this issue with firm determination. The LDP has worked out drastic reform measures based on fundamental discussions carried out over the last few years. The government and the LDP intend to carry out a final discussion on these drastic measures."

The SDPJ, Komeito, and DSP each say they intend to devise countermeasures jointly and then submit them to the Diet.

The discussion turns to the issue of constitutional revision. Asked how the LDP is going to cope with this, Kajiyama says: "Most LDP members feel Japan should review the Constitution, studying its relationship with the UN Charter and the SDF law. If not, they believe, Japan will not be able to cope with the changes in the world."

Akamatsu explains SDPJ's "soken" [creative development of the Constitution] theory, saying: "The theory advocates the idea of interpreting the Constitution in a creative manner. For example, to coordinate the existence of the SDF with the pacifist Constitution, we propose enacting a basic security law."

Ichikawa says: "It is no longer permissible for Japan to regard as taboo discussion on revising the Constitution's war-renouncing Article 9."

Shii stresses the need to maintain pacifism in the Constitution. Yonezawa agrees the Constitution is in need of review to cope with changes in the world and to contribute to the international community.

Obama, noting that Prime Minister Miyazawa is cautious about discussing Constitution revision, asks Kono about the views he has heard from the other participants.

Kono says: "If changes in the international scene are taken into consideration, it is quite natural that we now have debate on this issue. Prime Minister Miyazawa has said it is good to argue over the Constitution, and he does not oppose political parties discussing the issue, but his administration has no intention of discussing the matter on the premise that the Constitution should be revised. The prime minister thinks Japan can make sufficient international contributions under the current Constitution."

Finally, Obama asks Kono about prospects for the development of the Uruguay Round of trade talks. Kono cites the various demands member nations have submitted to GATT, and then notes the difficulty of concluding the talks by the deadline.

Former Komeito Head's Retirement Announced

OW3001021893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0144 GMT 30 Jan 93

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 30 KYODO—Junya Yano, former leader of Japan's second largest opposition party Komeito, and two of its senior Diet members will retire from politics to rejuvenate the party, Komeito sources said Saturday.

Yano, 60, Hidehiko Yaoi, 59, and Ichiro Watanabe, 61, will not run in the next House of Representatives election expected sometime this year, the sources said.

The planned retirement of the three is apparently in response to calls by Komeito chairman Koshiro Ishida to rejuvenate and create a "new" Komeito in the next election, they said.

Komeito requires its Diet members to retire at age 65, and its candidates running in lower house elections must be younger than 63 years and three months.

Although the three will still be younger than the cutoff age in the next election, they have already served in the political world for about 25 years and so they have responded to Ishida's call for them to step down, the sources said.

Yano, Yaoi and Watanabe will officially announce their retirement when their successors are decided, they said.

Yano served as Komeito chairman between 1986 and 1989. He was first elected to the lower house in 1967 from Osaka.

He resigned as the Komeito head in December 1989 for his alleged involvement in a stock scandal.

Yaoi was elected three times to the House of Councillors and another three times to the lower house from Osaka.

Watanabe was returned to the lower house nine times from Hyogo Prefecture.

Miyazawa, Watanabe Differ on Amendment Issue

OW3101033793 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 26 Jan 93

[From "Noon News" program]

[Text] In an interpellation session of the House of Representatives yesterday, Prime Minister Miyazawa said that he is not considering holding a debate on the Constitution on the premise of rewriting it.

Commenting on the prime minister's statement at a news conference held this morning after a cabinet session, Foreign Minister Watanabe said that a full debate should be held on the relationship between the UN's collective security and the Japanese Constitution. At the news conference the foreign minister went on to say: I disagree with the prime minister's statement at the interpellation session. If the cabinet has no intention of holding a debate on constitutional amendment, nothing can be done. I am not thinking of making a concrete proposal for constitutional amendment.

The foreign minister went on to say at the news conference: In the future, the world should be completely rid of armaments. Some nations, however, have been arming themselves and it has become necessary to create a global police force to maintain world order. I favor holding a full debate on this point. In this way, the foreign minister indicated that debate should be held on the relationship between the UN's collective security and the Japanese Constitution.

While Prime Minister Miyazawa has ruled out any debate on the Constitution on the premise of rewriting it, Foreign Minister Watanabe, who is also deputy prime minister, has stressed anew the need to hold a debate on the Constitution, including its amendment. In addition, while the prime minister is negative about an early review of the Peacekeeping Cooperation Law, the foreign minister favors an early review of the law. As a result, this difference between the prime minister and the foreign minister is likely to trigger a hot debate on constitutional amendment at the current Diet session.

Mitsuzuka Comments on Political Reform 31 Jan

OW3101125893 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 31 Jan 93

[From the "NHK News" program]

[Text] At a news conference today in Akita Prefecture, Chairman of the Liberal Democratic Party's [LDP] Policy Research Council Hiroshi Mitsuzuka commented on bills proposing fundamental political reform, including revision of the election system.

He said his view was that any bill on which the opposition parties also agreed during the final round of the current Diet session, should be treated separately from other the bills to get it enacted.

Mitsuzuka said: Although the LDP's fundamental policy is to pass the four political reform bills together, it will be difficult to get opposition party agreement on all of them within a limited number of days. We should not shelve them because we cannot obtain opposition party agreement. It should be a matter of course that, if we can get approval for it, we complete the passage of a bill before the end of the current Diet session.

His comments indicated that, if an agreement on any bill could be obtained in the final round of negotiations during the current Diet session, it should be passed—even at the risk of separating it from other related bills.

In a news conference in Akita Prefecture, [location as heard] International Trade and Industry Minister Mori, said hospital and school facilities should be included in public works projects. Minister Mori said that the image of what constituted a public works project should be changed. He said the Finance Ministry, too, should change its attitude in order to use public works projects to improve facilities such as hospitals and schools.

His comments explained the point of view which says the government should actively carry out projects earmarked in the budget ahead of schedule.

Opposes Prime Minister Election

OW3101130793 Tokyo KYODO in English 1230 GMT 31 Jan 93

[Text] Akita, Jan. 31 KYODO—Hiroshi Mitsuzuka, chairman of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party's Policy Affairs Research Council, said here Sunday he favors giving top priority to revising the Political Funds Control Law.

At a news conference, he suggested that a revision of the current law should be acted upon before other political reform proposals, including one to introduce single-seat constituencies for the House of Representatives.

Mitsuzuka, leader of the 74-member faction inside the LDP, renewed his opposition to a national election to pick a prime minister, pointing to the existence of the Japanese monarchy.

Instead, Mitsuzuka proposed greater participation of the LDP faithful in elections to choose the party president, a post that also carries the premiership because of the LDP's majority in the powerful lower house.

Panel Discusses Economy, Constitution 31 Jan

OW3101191593 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0000 GMT 31 Jan 93

[Editorial Report] Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese at 0000 GMT on 31 January carries live a 60-minute roundtable discussion entitled "Economic Measures and Political Reform". Taking part in the discussion are Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono; Hiroshi Mitsuzuka, chairman of the Liberal Democratic Party's [LDP] Policy Research Council; Ichiro Hino of the Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ]; Nobuaki Futami of Komeito; Hiroshi Kikunami of the Japan Communist Party [JCP]; and Kansei Nakano of the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP]. The program is moderated by NHK commentator Takashi Yamamoto.

After briefly reviewing a series of Diet discussions on the government's economic measures, tax cuts, and the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin scandal, Yamamoto asks the participants to explain what they think of the government's pump-priming economic measures and the goal of achieving 3.3 percent economic growth.

Mitsuzuka of the LDP simply says the goal has to be achieved. He adds this is the most important goal of the LDP's policy.

Hino of the SDPJ states that 3.3 percent is impossible to achieve because the current economic situation is very serious and will continue for a while.

Other opposition party members agree with Hino and criticize the government's poor and unrealistic economic measures, saying it is almost impossible to achieve this goal. At the same time, they urge the government to realize the grave nature of the current economic situation.

Agreeing with representatives of the opposition parties on the need to launch economic measures, Mitsuzuka says: "Approval of the fiscal 1993 draft budget before the end of this fiscal year is a starting point." However, Futami points out the need to revise the draft budget, stating: "Tax reductions or further increases in public investment should be added." While Mitsuzuka and Kono defend the government's economic measures and fiscal 1993 draft budget, representatives of the opposition call in unison for urgent and realistic measures to boost the economy.

Yamamoto then changes the topic of discussion to influence-peddling in the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin scandal. The opposition members stress it is necessary to further probe the scandal by calling witnesses to the Diet. Nakano, who is also a member of the Budget Committee, discloses: "At a board meeting of the Budget Committee held the day before yesterday [29 January], the LDP agreed they will summon witnesses to a meeting of the Budget Committee."

Regarding political reform, Mitsuzuka says his party will map out three bills by the end of March on an election law, a regulation of money for political activities, and a law for preventing corruption. Hino of the SDPJ explains the first thing that has to be done is to make the flow of money for political activities more transparent. He then says that reform of politicians' morals concerning money is necessary. Futami states that discussions between the ruling and opposition parties should be held at a council for political reform. Kikunami adds it is obvious that political donations by companies and groups, as well as redistribution of Diet seats, are areas in which the most urgent reforms have to be made. Representatives insist on different opinions which support the views of their own parties.

Yamamoto brings the discussion to revising the Constitution. Asked how the LDP is planning to deal with this issue, Mitsuzuka explains the party's plan to establish in the Diet an educational mechanism—composed of representatives of all parties—to throughly discuss and find consensus as to which part of the Constitution should or should not be changed.

Futami says his party will not treat revision of the Constitution as taboo, adding that if necessary they may need to "directly talk about whether or not the current Constitution can deal with the changing international situation."

Kinunami states: "I think the focal point of the constitutional amendment is Article 9. I am of the opinion that the principle of the Constitution, a principle which is peace, matches the direction of world development." He continues to say there is no need to revise the peace Constitution, and his party is determined to protect the Constitution.

Nakano states that although his party has "no intention to change Clause 1 of Article 9," there are some clauses which are "likely to invite misunderstanding concerning the right of self-defense or Japan's international contributions." He continues to points out that "no provisions in the Constitution talk about what role the government should actively play in protecting the people's lives and assets."

Nakano concludes by saying: "It is true many parts of the Constitution need to be reviewed. I think it is important to have various discussions, including discussions on its interpretation, at this opportune moment."

Asked if ministers of the Miyazawa cabinet think it a good idea to discuss constitutional amendments, Chief Cabinet Secretary Kono answers: "We are not saying that." He continues: "Prime Minister Miyazawa highly assesses the ideology of the current Constitution. There are various opinions regarding the Constitution. However, as we have just talked about, almost all of them are different."

Regarding the opinion of some LDP members' on electing a prime minister by public election, Mitsuzuka says he "welcomes different opinions," but is personally against it. However, he continues: "Discussions about it within the framework of the parliamentary cabinet system may possibly be linked to an introduction of the presidential system. Therefore, I am personally against it."

LDP Figure Urges Taxation System Overhaul

OW2901163093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1419 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 29 KYODO—A key policymaker of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) said Friday the country's taxation system requires a major overhaul to ensure a steady income to the state coffers.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told reporters that the party's Tax Council should be convened after the fiscal 1993 budget passes the Diet in order to discuss the basic ideas of the taxation system.

"It is necessary to look into whether the current system is fair to every taxpayer. Equally imperative is revision of the proportion of direct and indirect taxes," he said.

His remarks came as calls are mounting for reducing the dependency on direct levies inherent in the system to ensure a stable revenue even during economic recessions. Direct taxes are more subject to economic ups and downs than indirect ones like tabacco and liquor taxes.

Advocates of the shift to a more indirect taxation system say the aging of the society also justifies the idea, as payers of direct taxes like income and corporate taxes are becoming fewer and fewer.

Currently, direct taxes account for 74.2 percent of the country's total tax revenues, compared with 91.7 percent in the U.S., 55.4 percent in Britain, and 53.2 percent in Germany.

Also proposed is stiffer taxation on shopowners and other self-employed workers who enjoy many loopholes and a number of kinds of deductions while salaried workers are taxed completely at the source of income.

On a proposed hike in the 3 percent consumption tax introduced in April 1989, the key LDP figure was mindful of likely opposition from taxpayers.

"Many people would be unhappy with it," he said.

The proposed revamping of the taxation system has already been endorsed by Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa who, speaking earlier in the day at the House of Councillors, cited simplification of the nation's complicated progressive taxation scheme as one of the tax problems left to be solved.

The LDP official also urged an early easing of credit by the financial authorities in a bid to jumpstart the sluggish economy.

"At the moment what we need is financial and fiscal measures, especially those requiring no legal revisions," he said.

The official discount rate, which the Bank of Japan (BOJ) charges on loans to commercial banks, stands at 3.25 percent after five rounds of reductions since July 1991.

Mitsuzuka: Government Considering Tax Cuts

OW2901162693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1439 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 29 KYODO—A key official of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) indicated Friday the government will consider housing-related tax reductions as part of proposed extra pump-priming measures it will take later this year.

Hiroshi Mitsuzuka, chairman of the party's Policy Research Council, said during the recording of a televised interview with Japan Broadcasting Company, that it remains to be seen whether a proposed tax reduction will be carried out in the form of an income tax cut or housing-related tax cut.

"We don't know yet whether the nation needs income tax cuts or housing-related tax cuts which are sought by salaried workers saddled with massive housing loans," he said.

Opposition parties and some officials within the governing party are requesting that the economic stimulative program, likely to be unveiled in March, include housing-related tax cuts, which they believe offers a quicker cure to the economy than an ordinary income tax reduction.

Government To Revise Seven Agricultural Laws

OW3001060593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0544 GMT 30 Jan 93

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 30 KYODO—The Agriculture Ministry will revise seven agricultural laws to strengthen the foundations of Japan's agriculture, ministry officials said Saturday.

The officials said the decision was in line with the ministry's new farming reform plan aimed at developing large-scale rice growers.

They said a package of bills calling for revision of seven agrarian laws, including the Agriculture Land Law and the Law to Promote the Use of Farmland, will be submitted to the current session of the Diet for approval.

The agricultural revisions are needed in order to raise agricultural production and boost the income of farmers, the officials said.

It is also aimed at bolstering functions of agricultural cooperatives and other farmland holding corporations engaged in farmland trading and leasing and providing financial aid to farmers abandoning farming, they said.

The new reform policy will also allow business corporations to engage in agricultural production and farm produce trade through investment in agricultural cooperatives, the officials said.

The proposed revisions will involve laws governing operations and financing of agricultural cooperatives, they said.

Ministry Reports 1992 Housing Starts' Growth

OW2901052993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0500 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 29 KYODO—Japan's housing starts in 1992 posted a 2.4 percent growth from 1991 for the first gain in two years to 1,402,590 units, the Construction Ministry reported Friday.

In December, housing starts increased 5.4 percent for the seventh straight month of year-on-year increases to 120,003 units, following an 8.2 percent rise in November.

In 1992, owner-occupied housing starts increased 8.5 percent to 477,611 units, the ministry said.

Starts on rental housing rose 15.1 percent to 671,989 units, while those on houses and condominiums for sale decreased 19.8 percent to 217,127 units.

North Korea

Foreign Ministry Memorandum on South's Nuclear Development

SK3001035893 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0000 GMT 30 Jan 93

[DPRK Foreign Ministry memorandum issued in Pyongyang on 29 January—read by announcer]

[Text] Concerning nuclear weapons development maneuvers pushed ahead in South Korea under the United States' nuclear umbrella:

It is 35 years since the United States began its illegal shipments of nuclear weapons to South Korea.

For the past 35 years, the United States has systematically brought various nuclear weapons into South Korea, turning South Korea into the largest nuclear forward base in the Far East, constantly waging a nuclear threat to our Republic.

For a long time, the South Korean authorities have secretly pushed ahead with nuclear weapons development under the United States' nuclear umbrella. Today, such development has reached a grave stage.

The DPRK Foreign Ministry recognizes that in order to realize the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and ensure peace and security in Asia and the world, it is neccessary to expose the truth behind the development of nuclear weapons in South Korea with the United States' tacit approval. Thus, the DPRK Foreign Ministry announces this memorandum:

1. Criminal Record of Nuclear Arms Development.

Nuclear arms development in South Korea, which is under U.S. occupation, has a nearly 30-year history.

South Korea's nuclear development, which began to be carried into practice toward the end of the 1960s, has been rapidly promoted annually by the successive military fascist regimes and it has reached the stage of completion.

A. The construction of a bridgehead for nuclear development.

The Pak Chong-hui regime made nuclear development a policy and built a bridgehead for this. In 1968, South Korea began to plan for the processing of nuclear fuel, which is indispensable to nuclear development.

The United States' nuclear (?scenario) in South Korea and [word indistinct]: At a meeting of the 172d Atomic Energy Committee in May 1969, the South Korean authorities finalized a plan for the research and development of atomic energy and its long-range utilization, which was a nuclear arms development plan prepared by the Atomic Energy Research Institute (then the Institute of Atomic Energy) for the purpose of pushing ahead with the installation of reprocessing facilities—1990 April edition of the South Korean magazine WOLGAN CHOSON.

In 1971, the South Korean military regime established the Weapons Development Committee—a secret special committee under the direct supervision of Chongwadae [presidential residence] for the development of nuclear weapons—and the (Frazer) Committee in the United States announced that the Pak regime reached a unanimous agreement on pushing for nuclear arms development at the Weapons Development Committee in the early 1970s—1 November 1978, The Final Report on the Koreagate Incident.

In 1970, the Pak regime organized the Agency for Defense Development [ADD] with a ministerial-level director and vice ministerial-level deputy director. Following this, the Pak regime founded in succession the Atomic Energy Research Institute in 1973, a group for the development of nuclear missiles in 1974, and a complex for the development of nuclear fuel in 1976. Thus, the Pak regime completed the framework for nuclear development—1989 April edition of the South Korean magazine SINDONGA.

In November 1974, South Korea concluded a contract with Canada to import a (?tunnel-type) of [word indistinct]. In 1975, South Korea purchased a missile propellant plant from Lockheed—1991 April edition of WOLGAN CHOSON.

In June 1975, Pak Chong-hui stated that South Korea possesses the capability to develop nuclear weapons and clarified that South Korea will belong to the nuclear club within a few years—12 June 1975 THE WASHINGTON POST; 29 June NEWSWEEK.

On 26 September 1978, South Korea test fired a ground-to-ground missile developed by ADD capable of carrying a nuclear warhead and [word indistinct]. For this, foreign journalists began to evaluate South Korea as a potential nuclear state—1989 April edition of the South Korean magazine SINDONGA.

B. The actual condition of the industrial basis of nuclear development.

The Chon Tu-hwan military regime intensified the nuclear development and built its industrial foundation.

Chon Tu-hwan maximized the nuclear research capability by conducting the merger and abolition of research organizations under the government on 19 December 1980, acting as if he had not promoted nuclear development—South Korean YONHAP Yearbook 1981.

In 1982, under the pretext of the issue of nuclear fuel management after becoming independent, the Korea Atomic Energy Research Institute [KAERI] and the Korea Electric Power Corporation insisted on operating nuclear waste reprocessing facilities capable of reprocessing 250 tons of nuclear waste a year from 1992 and insisted on enlarging gradually the capacity up to 500 tons by 1995 and 1,000 tons by 2000. In the same year, they concluded a $295,000 contract with the United States' (Bunge Endrew) Company to introduce fast breeder reactor technology in South Korea—1990 April WOLGAN CHOSON and YONHAP Yearbook 1983.

In September 1983, Yi Ki-paek, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, made an oral report to Chon Tu-hwan on ROK nuclear policy. With this as momentum, a secret plan to map out a strategy to chose nuclear armament began to be promoted vitally—1991 October WOLGAN CHOSON.

South Korea completed [word indistinct] facilities after a survey on the possibility to extract plutonium in

November 1985 and began to operate them full scale in 1987—1990 April and 1991 October WOLGAN CHOSON.

In 1987, South Korea laid out nuclear-capable [words indistinct] with a 256km shooting range, as if it had been in an actual combat—1991 April WOLGAN CHOSON.

On 28 April 1988, David Fisher, former director of the Secretariats of the International Atomic Energy Agency, estimated that South Korea was capable of manufacturing nuclear weapons.

C. Emerging as a nuclear possessor.

The No Tae-u military regime has implemented nuclear development.

On 25 March 1989, the KAERI held a ground-breaking ceremony of a 30,000kw-capacity multipurpose reactor for nuclear development, which it had been promoting, and planned to complete it at the end of 1992—1990 April WOLGAN CHOSON.

In August 1990, South Korean authorities announced a strategic research and development plan to develop a fast breeder reactor, which is necessary for the legitimate purchase of plutonium and to increase its production, and laser spectrum technology. On 9 November 1990, they agreed with Japan to jointly develop technology for a next generation atomic reactor—1991 October WOLGAN CHOSON and South Korean TONGA Yearbook 1991.

At the first scientific and technological skills contest held with No Tae-u in Taedok, South Chungchong Province in 1990, the Taedok declaration on completion of the Taedok Research Town by the end of 1992, four or five years ahead of schedule, was adopted, and a ceremony of its completion was held in the presence of No Tae-u on 27 November 1992—TONGA Yearbook 1991 and MBC-TV 27 November 1992.

After announcing the declaration of denuclearization on 8 November 1991, the No Tae-u regime signed with the United Kingdom an agreement on nuclear waste reprocessing. [words indistinct] described this as a cleverly-schemed double-sided strategy—1992 December issue of Japanese magazine SEKAI.

Facts show that South Korea was a potential nuclear possessor in the 1970s, became a quasi-nuclear possessor in the 1980s, and is becoming a nculear possessor in the 1990s.

2. The Actual Condition of Nuclear Armament.

The technology of nuclear development, the operation of an atomic reactor, the extraction of nuclear material, the manufacturing of nuclear warheads, nuclear tests, possession of means of nuclear delivery, and being fully equipped with nuclear arms for an actual nuclear war are basic signs of nuclear armament.

In South Korea, these basic things are extensively being promoted simultaneously and are becoming a completed system.

A. Being equipped with nuclear arms production technology.

South Korea has a large foundation for nuclear research and development. About 20 research organizations are mobilized for nuclear development in South Korea. It has skilled technical manpower numbering as many as 15,000, including some 1,500 experts with doctoral degrees—1991 October edition of WOLGAN CHOSON.

The KAERI has played a pivotal role in nuclear development in South Korea. Its basic task is to research reprocessing technology for obtaining plutonium. The Nuclear Fuel Development Complex, the predecessor of Nuclear Fuel Inc., was established to develop the nuclear fuel [word indistinct] technology, including the technical ability to manufacture nuclear bombs, and acted as a field commander for nuclear development.

South Korea's National Defense and Science Institute is in charge of developing secret strategic arms, which includes nuclear delivery, basic technology, and a parts-oriented general armament system—1990 April edition of WOLGAN CHOSON and South Korean HANGYORE SINMUN on 18 September 1991.

The Korea Chemical Research Institute conducts research on special explosives, and the Korea Electronic Communication Research Institute conducts research and development of the C3I system. The Korea Aviation and Space Research Institute is in charge of research and development of artificial satellites.

Also, the Resource Research Institute under the Trade and Industry Ministry of South Korea, posing as an institute for energy resources, is concentrating on locating natural uranium to be used for heavy-water reactors—1989 November and December editions of the South Korean military magazine WOLGAN MILITARY VISION and 1992 April edition of WOLGAN CHOSON.

Many companies, including Nuclear Fuel Inc., Korea Electric Power and Technology, Korea Heavy Industries, Kyongbuk Machine Industries, Korea Dynamite Manufacturing Company, Pungsan Metal Industries, and Hyundai Electronics, are participating in South Korea's nuclear development.

The town of Taedok, which was built for nuclear arms development 20 years ago, has evolved into a a general facility for nuclear research, a conning tower [saryongtab] of nuclear arms development. It has 65 research institutes and colleges, 20,000 researchers, and 100,000 residents on 8,340,000 pyong of land—MBC-TV 27 November 1992.

This shows that South Korea's nuclear research and development has been created on a foundation of advanced industrial development, not on simple test development. The South Korean authorities have promoted technological development of nuclear arms behind the scenes of technological development of nuclear energy.

Electric Power Research Institute and Nuclear Fuel Inc. acquired technology applicable to nuclear reprocessing by working jointly on joint nuclear fuel design with a foreign country's technical team and by building and operating test facilities after a survey, under the pretext of localization of nuclear fuel—1990 April edition of WOLGAN CHOSON.

Meanwhile, the KAERI has developed the KMRR multipurpose research reactor by working with other countries on designing the Yonggwang No. 3 and No. 4 reactors and has acquired basic technology, including a computer code used in manufacturing nuclear warheads, through joint designing work on a multipurpose research reactor—1990 April edition of WOLGAN CHOSON.

South Koreans engaged in nuclear development openly say that they have built a large, elaborate technological substructure which makes them regard manufacturing of atomic bombs as insignificant—1990 April edition of WOLGAN CHOSON.

B. The atomic reactors at issue:

The number and capabilities of atomic reactors are an important indicator of nuclear development potential.

Three research reactors, eight light-water reactors, and one heavy-water reactor in operation in South Korea are being used for military nuclear development, according to the authorities' nuclear arms development policy.

The nuclear development research reactors at issue are the 2,000 kw-class (Triga) Mark No.3, which began operation in 1972, and the 30,000 kw-class multipurpose research reactors, which began operation in 1992.

The 1990 April edition of South Korean magazine WOLGAN CHOSON wrote that all of the research reactors can be used to produce plutonium for nuclear bombs. In particular, the atomic reactor considered the most serious is the Wolsong (Cando)-type heavy-water reactor. The motive behind building it, its purpose, and its operation are all directly connected with nuclear development.

The relevant figures in South Korean nuclear development confessed that introduction of the (Cando)-type heavy-water reactor from Canada was clearly related to nuclear development and that they attempted to develop heavy-water type nuclear weapons—1989 April edition of SINDONG-A and 1991 March edition of WOLGAN CHOSON.

In the medium- and long-range plan for research and development of atomic energy, which was finalized last February, the South Korean Ministry of Science and Technology decided to build a 150,000 kw-class (?new-type) fast breeder reactor by 2011. The ministry started this work in July 1992—29 July 1992, NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN in Japan). Social circles in South Korea are concerned about the definite possibility that the authorities may take plutonium while it is being transported in order to use it for the fast breeder reactor—14 January 1993, HANGYORE SINMUN.

After nine years of research, South Korea succeeded in developing a nuclear fusion test device—28 May 1992, HANGYORE SINMUN. Considering that nuclear fusion is used only for manufacturing hydrogen bombs, South Korea's true intention in desperately developing a nuclear fusion device is to develop hydrogen bombs instead of using it for electric energy production.

C. Acquisition of nuclear explosive materials through many channels.

The South Korean authorities have accumulated a considerable amount of nuclear-(?related) material for nuclear bombs, either extracting it themselves or obtaining it from a third country, and have revealed their undisguised attempt at high-enrichment and reprocessing of these materials in order to secure large amounts of them for industrial use. After tests, South Korea has perfected a system to extract nuclear explosive materials and is now secretly extracting them.

The heavy-water reactor in Wolsong is used as an important production base for military-use plutonium. (Yi Chang-kon), a technological adviser to the nuclear fuel corporation, stated that a double accounting system like the kind corporations have is applied to nuclear fuel after it is used. One may record that 10 kilograms was processed each day, even though 1,000 kilograms of nuclear fuel may have been processed—1992 April edition of WOLGAN CHOSON.

Furthermore, a few years ago the lens of a surveillance camera installed by the IAEA in the No. 1 unit in Wolsong was found covered by a rag. Investigators demanded an explanation for this—1990 April edition of WOLGAN CHOSON.

The [word indistinct] test facility established at the Institute of Atomic Energy Research in Taedok is dangerous for two reasons. One is that this is the only place in South Korea where there is nuclear fuel emission outside of the atomic power plant after it is used. The second is that this facility can be applied to reprocessing.—1991 October edition of WOLGAN CHOSON.

Since the Pak Chong-hui regime, the South Korean authorities carried out heated operations to smuggle nuclear [word indistinct] material through the international black market. An official concerned in nuclear development mentioned that there was a proposal through a mediator from a foreign country to purchase plutonium.—1992 April edition of WOLGAN CHOSON. Therefore, South Korea has now secured a large amount of nuclear explosive material.

According to Volume No. 5 of SOLIDARITY AND PROGRESS, issued by the National Alliance for Democracy and National Reunification, there are over 20 countries including the ROK [hanguk] and Israel possessing enriched uranium and plutonium—basic ingredients of nuclear weapons. South Korea is not disposing of nuclear fuel after its use. It is being accumulated. As of 1992, 230 [word indistinct] of plutonium contained here is estimated at 10 tons, and it is expected to increase to about 24 tons in the year 2000.—(Peter Haize), "Nuclear Development in South Korea."

The atomic energy circle in South Korea says openly that a plant to reprocess nuclear fuel after its use must be constructed. The Institute of Energy Affairs, an affiliate of Aju University in South Korea, wrote a 3,500-page report in December 1989 entitled "Study on Prospects of Atomic Energy in the Years 2000 and on Establishing Ways To Deal With This Matter." The basic purpose of this report is to carry out diplomatic policy in atomic energy cooperation. It claims that emphasis must be put on creating conditions for core technology of atomic power plants and technology for enrichment and reprocessing, and on the transfer and self-development of the core technology of atomic power plant.

In fact, South Korea concluded a joint reprocessing agreement with Great Britain. In accordance with that agreement, a special office was opened in Seoul. It was agreed that the waste from South Korea's atomic reactors are to be reprocessed at Great Britain's (Sipind) reprocessing plant so that it can be supplied with plutonium.—1992 December edition of (SEKAI).

In his thesis "Nuclear Development in South Korea," (Peter Haize) revealed that mox—a mixed oxide of enriched uranium and plutonium—can be changed for the use of manufacturing nuclear bomb by going through a simple process. First of all mox—m, o, x—fuel can be easily transformed into plutonium without special technology, complicated facilities, or a large investment. It is transformed by slicing it into small pieces and [word indistinct] dissolving it into acetic acid. Second, this type is difficult to do on a large scale [word indistinct] but it is easily possible on a small scale [word indistinct].—1992 December edition of (SEKAI).

South Korea invested a large amount of capital in developing laser enriched technology, thus developing a copper steam laser used for separating enriched uranium.—1992 edition of Yonam Yearbook. This shows that the production of nuclear materials in South Korea has firmly reached the industrial stage.

D. Secret dispersion, manufacturing of nuclear bombs.

Nuclear bombs are being secretly dispersed after being manufactured in South Korea. South Korea is smuggling in from European countries special bomb-proof explosives that are important elements in manufacturing nuclear bombs and is using them. In this regard, Yi Chang-kon, an expert on nuclear development, admitted that sufficient special explosives can be purchased in international markets.—1992 April edition of WOLGAN CHOSON. It was confirmed that the Korea Explosives Company was secretly producing this kind of special explosives.

Tests for nuclear development were already carried out during the Pak regime in South Korea. A reporter for South Korea's magazine WOLGAN CHOSON testified that it imported a high-speed photographic camera that can take a picture in 1:100,000 of a second and carried out bomb-proof tests through the method of quickly taking pictures. He also testified that the bomb-proof tests using this camera were done in an underground laboratory.—1992 April edition of WOLGAN CHOSON.

Yi Chang-kon hinted that South Korea bought this high-speed photographic camera as spare parts that would later be assembled so that it would not be caught by the surveillance network, even though the camera can be purchased from Japan. Therefore, South Korea is importing the camera used for bomb-proof testing as spare parts and is continuing bomb-proof tests.

Various types of nuclear warheads are being designed and developed in South Korea. Concerning one type of warhead, a certain Choe who is involved in nuclear development said in an interview with WOLGAN CHOSON: One should pay attention to the diameter of missiles. The diameter of the smallest nuclear warhead that can be manufactured in an underdeveloped country in terms of nuclear technology is 80 centimeters. This can be reduced to be put into a 155-mm gun by an advanced country. We attempted to make an 80 centimeter warhead—1991 March edition of WOLGAN CHOSON.

Parts and materials pertaining to manufacturing nuclear warheads are being produced secretly and separately in disguise of common goods and as commodities with special marks by Korea Heavy Industry Corporation, Changwon Machine, Korea Dynamites, Korea Nuclear Fuel Corporation, Nuclear Fuel [word indistinct] Processing Plant, Korea Atomic Energy Technology Corporation, and other enterprises. South Korean nuclear specialists note that in the event that an extreme situation occurs, elementary nuclear weapons can be developed within a 9-month period—1993 14 January HANGYORE SINMUN. This actually means the same as the nuclear warheads being stored separately in storehouses in the nuclear states.

E. Possession of various nuclear-delivery means.

South Korea possesses various nuclear delivery means, including field guns, missiles and nuclear-loaded airplanes.

The South Korean Army has about 40 155-mm artillery battalions capable of firing nuclear warheads and a 203-mm and 8-inch field gun artillery (?brigade)—1990 June MONTHLY MILITARY VISION.

The 1988 report on the military expenditures of world nations and on weapons transfer published by the U.S. Arms Reduction Bureau—7 August 1989:

The 1988 report on military expenditure of world nations and on weapons transfer revealed that South Korea developed a ROK-type ground-to-ground missile with a maximum range of 256 kilometers, and the 1989 July edition of MONTHLY MILITARY VISION wrote that South Korea developed a medium and long-range guided missile, (Hyonmi), and deployed it in case of war.

Besides, Honest John ground-to-ground missiles and Nike (Hawkras) ground-to-air missiles which the South Korean Army received from the U.S. forces are capable of loading nuclear warheads—1989 June MONTHLY MILITARY VISION.

Four hundred fifty-seven fighters possessed by the South Korean Army—1998 National Defense White Paper:

Of 457 fighters, F-4s and F-16s are capable of loading nuclear warheads—1991 March MAL.

F. Moves Under Real Nuclear (?War)

Nuclear weapons include, in addition to nuclear warheads and nuclear-delivery means, a $C3^I$-system which is a system for nuclear battlefield command, for control of communications, and for intelligence.

The South Korean military authorities invested an enormous amount of funds in and deployed a large-scale research group and many business groups for the development of this $C3^I$-system.

The (Pekinger) Project was aimed at gaining perfect capabilities for this system by 1992 so that the automatic command and control system for nuclear battlefield could be established. This is a large-scale plan designed to prepare for a wartime situation—1990 February MAL.

In an article headlined, "The Reality and Operation of (Pekinger)," the 1989 June edition of MILITARY VISION wrote that the formation of the ROK-type $C3^I$-system was launched in full scale from January 1988 at the request of the Sixth Bureau of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and with the National Defense Research Institute as the main axis. This magazine revealed that large-scale funds will be invested in this project, and Ssangyong Computer, Gold-Star Systems Research Institute, Samsung Semiconductor Communications, Hyundai Electronics, and many other South Korean business groups participated in this project.

The South Korean Army is carrying out a regular nuclear-bomb dropping exercise, being included in the South Korea-U.S. Armed Forces joint operation system.

The 1989 August edition of WOLGAN CHOSON wrote that key general officers of the South Korean Army regularly received briefings, at least once annually, on nuclear strategy and participated in discussions according to the Nuclear appendix in the operational plan of U.S. Forces in South Korea. THE CHICAGO DAILY NEWS, in its 1976 January 1 edition, reported that more than 30 artillery units under the command of the commanding general of the 1st ROK-U.S. Corps received training on the use of strategic warheads on 8-inch and 155-mm howitzers.

Even South Korean politicians admit that it is widely known that the Team Spirit joint military exercise, which has been held in South Korea each year on a large scale, is a comprehensive military exercise which simulates a nuclear war on the Korean peninsula—1989 January MONTHLY MILITARY VISION.

This illustrates that together with nuclear development, nuclear armament is being frenziedly pushed ahead at a grave stage in South Korea.

As a result, even the United States listed South Korea as a second-category nuclear competition nation—1989 November MONTHLY MILITARY VISION.

3. The Denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula is a Consistent Position of the Government of the Republic.

The denuclearization of the Korean peninsula is not only a unanimous aspiration and demand of our people and the peaceloving people of the world, but also a consistent stance of the government of the Republic. The government of our Republic repeatedly clarified that it has neither the intention nor the capability to develop nuclear weapons, and officially declared that it will not produce, introduce, or possess nuclear weapons.

Our clean-handedness on nuclear development has been practically proved and objectively verified.

Chong Kun-mo, former South Korean minister of science and technology who is the first South Korean ambassador for nuclear energy cooperation and whose post was newly established by the No Tae-u regime in a bid to speak for the authorities' position on the issue of the North's nuclear development suspicions, said that the intelligence that North Korea has reprocessing technology is doubtful. He assessed that the allegations on North Korea's nuclear development are a political issue, apart from technology—23 June 1990 HANGYORE SINMUN.

In a December 1990 interview with a reporter of the Japanese magazine (SAPIYO), (Larko,) a former U.S. Navy rear admiral, said: As the result of my experience in visiting and inspecting a broad range of industrial facilities both in the North and the South, I do not believe that North Korea has the capability to manufacture nuclear weapons, although its subway is the best in the world. Those who claim that North Korea has nuclear weapons seek to give a sense of horror to Japanese and South Korean people proceeding from a certain purpose.

(Sakurai Kiyoshi), an authoritative Japanese technological commentator, and Dr. (Kenneth Hunt), deputy director of Britain's International Strategic Research Institute, assuredly said that there is no proof that North Korea possesses nuclear reprocessing facilities—1990 July and 1991 March MAL.

This notwithstanding, the United States and the South Korean authorities persistently talked about the North's nuclear development. This is nothing but falsehood and smear with intense political aims to slander North Korea—1992 April WOLGAN CHOSON.

Concerning the insidious purposes of the United States and the South Korean authorities, public opinion at home and abroad pointed out: The nuclear row kicked off by the United States is aimed at making the North powerless and at opening the North by bringing it into the U.S.-led global order. It is also designed to indefinitely postpone the second-stage reduction of U.S. troops in South Korea on the pretext of nuclear weapons. South Korea is acting as shock troops for this because it wants to justify its allegation that South Korea should also possess nuclear weapons—1992 May SOLIDARITY AND ADVANCE, 1992 6 January JOINT RESEARCH published by Hanminjok Research Institute, and 1992 April WOLGAN CHOSON.

In order to achieve such aims, the United States and the South Korean authorities kicked off a row by raising the issue of international nuclear inspection of atomic reactor facilities in Yongbyon, North Korea. However, today after the inspection was carried out, they talk about the limited nature of the IAEA's Nuclear Safeguards Accord and inspections. They insist that even our ordinary military facilities must be included in mutual nuclear inspections, thus categorically expanding the nuclear inspection issue.

On the pretext of fictitious nuclear development in the North, the South Korean authorities are attempting to justify the development of their nuclear weapons, which has already entered into a grave stage and is advancing along the road of undisguised nuclear armament. Such a nuclear armament movement by the South Korean authorities is imposing a grave threat to peace in Korea and Asia.

Therefore, for the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and for peace in Asia, the criminal maneuvers of the United States and the South Korean authorities to make South Korea a nuclear arsenal on the pretext of our fictitious nuclear development should be checked and U.S. nuclear weapons should be completely withdrawn from South Korea. The South Korean authorities' nuclear development and nuclear armament maneuvers should be immediately suspended.

Because the truth behind South Korea's nuclear armament maneuvers is fully exposed to the world, public opinion at home and abroad should pay due attention to this grave situation, instead of looking at it idly.

The DPRK Government hopes that peaceloving governments in every nation of the world and international social circles will heighten vigilance against nuclear development and nuclear armament maneuvers waged in South Korea, will carry out joint international acts to check and frustrate such maneuvers, and will express firm solidarity to our people's struggle for the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

29 January 1993

Ministry 'Exposes Truth'

SK3101060593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0438 GMT 31 Jan 93

["DPRK Foreign Ministry Exposes Truth Behind Nuclear Development in South Korea"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, January 30 (KCNA)—The Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Friday issued a memorandum exposing the truth behind the development of nuclear weapons in South Korea, which is going on under the "nuclear umbrella" of the United States on the lapse of 35 years since the United States' illegal shipments of nuclear weapons into South Korea.

In the first part "criminal records of nuclear arms development" the memorandum cites data proving that the development of nuclear weapons by South Korea which began to be carried into practice toward the end of the 1960s has been rapidly promoted annually by the successive military fascist regimes and it has reached the stage of completion.

The South Korean authorities finalized the "long-term program for the research and development of atomic energy" a nuclear weapon development plan drawn up by the "atomic energy institute" (the then "atomic energy academy") to promote the installation of the reprocessing equipment, at the 172nd session of the atomic energy commission in May 1969. They founded the atomic energy institute in 1973, a nuclear missile development group in 1974 and an industrial zone for the development of nuclear fuel in 1976 to complete the system of nuclear devzwopment.

In 1982 the atomic energy institute and the "Korea Electric Power Corporation" signed a 295,000-dollar contract on the transfer of fast breeder reactor technology with the U.S. Gurns and Law Company and the post-irradiating test facilities to extract plutonium were completed in South Korea in November 1985 and their full-scale operation began in 1987. In that year the surface-to-surface missiles Hyonmu with a range of 256 kilometres, which could deliver nuclear warheads, were deployed for action.

The atomic energy institute held the ground-breaking ceremony for a 30,000 kw-class multi-purpose research reactor for nuclear development on March 25, 1989, and reached an agreement with Japan on November 9, 1990, on the joint promotion of the development of [word indistinct] technology of next generation.

The "first meeting of scientific and technological development" held in the presence of No Tae-u in 1990 adopted the "Taedok declaration" to complete the Taedok research zone, the general headquarters of nuclear arms development, four or five years ahead of schedule, that is, by the end of 1992, and its groundbreaking ceremony took place.

In its second part "status of nuclear armament" the memorandum cites data proving that nuclear development technology, operation of atomic reactor, extraction of nuclear substances, manufacture of nuclear warheads, nuclear test, possession of nuclear delivery means and establishment of a system to use nuclear weapons in action, the major indices of nuclear armament, have been promoted simultaneously on an overall scale, bringing into shape a complete system in South Korea.

There are ovr 20 research institutes engaged in nuclear development in South Korea and the technological collective consists of 15,000 men, including 1,500 of [word indistinct] grade.

The main task of the atomic energy institute of South Korea is "research into reprocessing technology for obtaining plutonium" and the "defence science institute" is in charge of the development of "secret strategic weapons," which are nuclear delivery means. And core technology, and a combined weapon system, mainly accessory parts.

And the "nuclear fuel company," the "Korea Electric Technology Co.," the "Korea Heavy Industries," the "Keyung buk machinery mfg. Co., Ltd.," the "Korea Explosives Co., Ltd.," the "Pungsan Metal Corporation Co., Ltd.," the "Hyundai Electronics" and many other companies are involved in nuclear devlopment.

The Taedok zone which was founded [words indistinct] for the development of nuclear weapons 20 years ago has now surfaced as a nuclear research complex and a commanding post of nuclear arms development.

The South Korean authorities have developed nuclear arms technology behind the curtain of development of "atomic energy development technology".

Through the joint designing of Yonggwang atomic reactors nos. 3 and 4 and of [word indistinct] with other countries, the atomic energy institute acquired such hardcore technologies as computer [words indistinct] be used in manufacturing nuclear bombs.

Three research reactors, and eight light water reactors and one heavy water reactor, including the 2,000 kw-class trigger [word indistinct] no. 3 put into operation in 1972 and a 30,000 kw-class reactor which began operating in 1992 in South Korea, are now used for military nuclear development.

The South Korean officials engaged in nuclear development confessed that they had tried to develop nuclear weapons in heavy water type in the candunian heavy water reactor in Wolsong. The South Korean "agency of science and technology" in its "medium and long-term program for the research and development of atomic energy" decided in June last year to build a 150,000 kw demonstration reactor of the fast breeder reactor by 2011 and started its construction in July 1992.

A nuclear fusion test device was developed through 9 year-long research and experiments in South Korea and it is clear that it was for the development of a bomb, not for the production of electric power. The South Korean authorities have stockpiled a considerable amount of nuclear substances for bombs through self-extraction and shipments from a [word indistinct] and, with a view [words indistinct] them in large quantities by industrial means, they are openly seeking high enrichment and reprocessing.

Having set up a complete system of extracting nuclear explosive substances at the experimental stage, South Korea is now extracting them in secrecy.

The Wolsong heavy water reactor [words indistinct] producer of plutonium for military purposes.

The South Korean authorities started a feverish smuggling operation to purchase nuclear substances from international black markets from the days of the Pak Chong-hui "regime". An official person involved in nuclear devlopment recalled that there had been a suggestion to purchase plutomium from a foreign country and a broker had turned up.

South Korea's stock of plutonium-239 amounted to 10 tons in 1992 and it is foreseen to increase to about 24 tons in the year 2000.

According to a joint reprocessing agreement signed with Britain, South Korea is to be supplied with plutonium through the reprocessing of waste from atomic reactors at the British Sheffield Reprocessing Plant.

By investing a fabulous amount of fund in the development of laser enriching technology, South Korea has "developed copper vapour laser" used in the separation of high enriched uranium.

Nuclear bombs are also separately manufactured in South Korea on the sly. It is smuggling special explosives for internal explosion, an important element in the making of nuclear bombs, from European countries, and today it has been confirmed that they are being manufactured at "Korea Explosives Co. Ltd" in secrecy.

Different types of nuclear bombs are being designed and developed in South Korea. Parts and materials for nuclear manufacture are separately produced in secrecy under the cover of general goods and under code names at enterprises including "Korea Heavy Industries Co., Ltd.", "Changwon Machine Co., Ltd.", "Korea Chemical Co., Ltd." And "Korea Nuclear Fuel Company, Ltd."

South Korean nuclear experts said "elementary types of nuclear weapons would be developed in nine months, if things went to the extremes."

South Korea has all kinds of nuclear-delivery means including field guns, missiles and nuclear-capable planes. Guns and 203 mm (8 inch) field guns which can launch nuclear warheads and F-4 and F-16 among the 457 fighter planes are nuclear capable.

The South Korean authorities have hurled a colossal amount of funds, vast research groups and a number of companies into the development of the "C3I" system, a system of command, control, communications and information of a nuclear war theatre.

The establishment of the "South Korean-type C3I" system began in real earnest from January 1988, drawing into it the Ssangyong Computer Co., the Gold Star System Institute, the Samsung Semiconductor Ltd., the Hyundai Electronics Co., Ltd and many other South Korean enterprises. The South Korean Army regularly conducts nuclear dropping and launching exercises under the South Korea-U.S. combined operational system.

Evan South Korean politicians admit that the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises which have been staged in South Korea every year on a large scale are widely known to be a combined military rehearsal simulating a nuclear war on the Korean peninsula.

This shows that nuclear arming is being madly promoted along with nuclear development in South Korea on a very dangerous stage.,

In "Denuclearisation of Korean Peninsula is Consistent Stand of the DPRK Government", its third part, the memorandum recalls that the DPRK Governmnt not only stated time and again it had neither intention nor capacity to develop nuclear weapons but also officially declared that it would not produce, introduce, or possess them.

The DPRK Government, it stresses, hopes that the governments of all countries and the international public which love peace will heighten vigilance against the moves for nuclear development and nuclear arming in South Korea, take an international joint action to check and frustrate them and express firm solidarity with the Korean people in the struggle for the denuclearisation of the Korean peninsula.

Foreign Ministry Rejects Japanese Security Council Seat

SK3001135793 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1210 GMT 30 Jan 93

[Statement issued by the DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman on 30 January—read by announcer]

[Text] Recently Japan has been openly maneuvering to become a permanent member of the UN Security Council. Japan's high-ranking authorities, including Foreign Minister Watanabe, made presumptuous remarks some time ago that Japan could become a permanent member of the UN Security Council with dignity if it sent more personnel to participate in UN peacekeeping operations and that the Security Council lacks confidence without Japan's participation.

Japan has no justification for becoming a permanent member because it is a war criminal state that has not liquidated its past before all the people in the world on whom it had committed grave crimes. However, Japan is trying to occupy a permanent seat in whatever way it can. Its purpose is to become a political power with a voice and to exercise influence over international problems. Furthermore, it is trying to use the United Nations as a stage to realize its political and military ambitions. This is indeed a rash act demonstrating that it does not know what kind of attitude it should take.

Japan is a war criminal state that inflicted incalculable misery and pain on the people of many Asian countries, including the Korean people, during World War II. In Korea alone, the Japanese imperialists forcibly drafted and took tens of millions of (?youths) to the police station; deprived some 200 thousand women of their chastity and lives; and indiscriminately killed some 1 million innocent people.

Japan has not yet correctly apologized for or liquidated the grave crimes committed before mankind, which cannot by any means be forgiven, even though half a century has passed. Nevertheless it is trying to become a permanent member. This can only be construed as an intention to take the road of world domination again, as militarists of the past had done.

Japan is even actively arguing for the dispatch of its Self-Defense Forces overseas; is moving toward becoming a big military power and arming itself with nuclear weapons; and is even saying that it will revise its constitution. If Japan becomes a permanent member of the UN Security Council, it will certainly pose a great threat to peace and security in Asia and the rest of the world.

Regardless of the world's intention and opposition, Japan proceeded with the marine transport of plutonium and is accelerating the pace of arming itself with nuclear weapons and becoming a big military power by stockpiling a large amount of nuclear materials. Therefore, if Japan is invested with the power of a permanent member, it is clear as fire that it can do anything if it is in its own interests.

To deal with Japan's arming itself with nuclear weapons, South Korea is saying openly that nuclear development should be carried out independently. This is becoming a great threat to the denuclearization of our republic and the Korean peninsula.

As has been clearly revealed in the DPRK-Japan talks, it is clear that even if Japan—which, diplomatically speaking, really is not independent—were to rise to power in the United Nations, it is evident that it would be a puppet dancing to the tune of the superpowers and would act according to the needs of their situation. Therefore, Japan is by no means qualified to become a permanent member of the UN Security Council.

If Japan is allowed to become a permanent member of the UN Security Council, this will not only mean that a rebirth of Japan's militarism is allowed, but it will also be an intolerable defilement of the tens of millions of people who suffered because of the Japanese imperialists. This will leave a blot on the world's history that cannot be erased.

Yeltsin Special Envoy Kunadze Arrives 29 Jan

SK2901112493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1102 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang, January 29 (KCNA)—Russian Vice-minister of Foreign Affairs Georgiy Kunadze arrived here today as a special envoy of the Russian president.

He was met at Pyongyang railway station by Vice-minister of Foreign Affairs Yi In-kyu and Russian Ambassador to Korea Yuriy Fadeyev.

Meets First Vice Foreign Minister

SK3001232393 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 30 Jan 93

[Text] Talks between First Vice Foreign Minister Kang Sok-chu and Vice Foreign Minister George Kunadze, special emissary of Russian Federation president, were held in Pyongyang on 30 January.

In the talks they exchanged their views on the matters of concern and mutual interest between the two countries.

Leaves Pyongyang for Home

SK0102132493 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1308 GMT 1 Feb 93

[Text] Vice Foreign Minister Georgiy Kunadze, a special envoy of the president of the Russian Federation, returned home by plane today. Vice Foreign Minister Yi In-kyu and Yuriy Fadeyev, ambassador of the Russian Federation to our country, saw off the special envoy at the airport.

Radio Denounces Team Spirit Resumption

SK2901000793 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1150 GMT 27 Jan 93

[Commentary by station commentator Chong Pong-kil: "The Expression of Ambition of a Nuclear War"]

[Text] According to a Seoul radio report, on 26 January, the South Korean authorities, despite strong protest and denunciation at home and abroad, got the puppet Defense Ministry to officially announce that the Team Spirit-93 joint military exercise will be conducted beginning mid-March.

According to the announcement, the military force that will be mobilized for the Team Spirit joint military exercise is ten percent less than in 1991. A fleet of carriers, Patriot missiles, U.S. troops, and equipment will be deployed in South Korea. Not confined to the field mobile exercises which was mainly conducted in the previous Team Spirit exercises, they will conduct command post exercises and a map exercise using a computer system for the first time.

The rascals raved that despite urging someone to conduct nuclear inspections, because he still has not changed his attitude, they are forced to conduct this war exercise. This is a vicious challenge to our people and the world's peace-loving people who unanimously want peace and a peaceful reunification of Korea.

As has already been known, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean ruling quarters decided to resume the discontinued Team Spirit joint military exercise at the Annual Security Consultative Meeting held in Washington in October 1992. In connection with this, our people and the world's peace-loving people have strongly urged that the decision be withdrawn immediately.

However, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean ruling quarters have not withdrawn the decision to resume the war exercise, consequently aborting the meetings of various Joint Committees which had been expected to be held in November last year. The joint committees should have dealt with the task to implement the annexed agreements of the North-South agreement. Worse still, they committed the criminal act of frustrating the ninth North-South high-level talks which had been expected to be held in Seoul in late December 1992.

At a time when North-South dialogue has been suspended, the South Korean ruling quarters officially announced the decision to conduct the Team Spirit war exercise. This cannot but be a public declaration that they will reject North-South dialogue and take the road to overall confrontation and war.

Judging from the contents of the war exercise plan announced by the rascals, this year's Team Spirit joint military exercise is composed of more dangerous and provocative characteristics than ever before. The rascals announced that the war exercise will be conducted for approximately ten days. However, the period means only the period of the real war exercise, not the period of preparations and evacuation. Thus, the length of the war exercise is the same as the previous ones. Materiel to be mobilized for the Team Spirit joint military exercise are more modern war means, such as a fleet of carriers, Patriot missiles, and computer systems.

Not being confined to the previous field mobile exercise, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean ruling quarters are trying to conduct command post training and a map training by using a computer system.

Such maneuvers of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are criminal acts to apply the experience of the Gulf war to the Korean peninsula. This proves that the rascals rush headlong toward war, not toward dialogue for peace and reunification of Korea.

Today when the cold war system has ended internationally and when the agreement, including nonaggression, was adopted and validated, they are engaged in conducting military provocations around the areas along the Military Demarcation Line. Worse still, they are trying to conduct the Team Spirit war exercise, a nuclear test war, and a preliminary war to invade the North. This is a necessary measure only for a war.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean ruling quarters, who are persistently trying to conduct the Team Spirit war exercise, are destroyers of dialogue, an enemy of reunification, and heinous warmongers.

To justify conducting the Team Spirit war exercise, the South Korean ruling quarters are again referring to the so-called issue of nuclear inspection. This is a robbery like a thief calling another a thief. Because the U.S. imperialists brought in approximately 1,000 nuclear weapons into South Korea, the issue of nuclear inspection has come out. Because the South Korean ruling quarters are still against the inspection of the U.S. imperialists' nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea, the nuclear inspection still has not been conducted.

As for the Team Spirit joint military exercise, this is a nuclear test war, in which the U.S. nuclear weapons, nuclear war means, and large-scale military forces based on the U.S. mainland and the Pacific are mobilized.

Turning South Korea into a nuclear war arsenal, threatening us via a nuclear war exercise, and referring to another's nonexistent nuclear issue are acts that can be committed by villainous robbers.

The Team Spirit war exercise, which the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are trying to conduct, is a public threat and provocation to our Republic, which does not possess nuclear weapons. The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean ruling quarters are trying to surprise our people through means of strength. This is a foolish delusion.

Our people, who are single-heartedly united around the party and the leader as firm as a rock, will firmly defend socialist system without budging in the face of winds of any kinds. Our people will resolutely rise up to sternly chastise aggressors who infringe upon our sovereignty and dignity.

The United States and the South Korean authorities should immediately withdraw the Team Spirit war plan and should act with discretion.

Kim Chong-il Thanks Transportation Officials

SK2901104093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1016 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Pyongyang, January 29 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il sent thanks to the officials of the State Transport Commission for having set an example in the assistance to the People's Army.

They visited units of the People's Army some time ago, taking with them silk banners, comfort letters, colour TV sets, video sets and other instruments of culture, hundreds of tons of materials and hundreds of tons of supplies to congratulate soldiers on their success in combat training and encourage them.

Comrade Kim Chong-il also sent thanks to the employees of Pothonggang Hotel for their achievements in services for foreigners over the last two decades since its foundation.

KCNA Reviews 29 Pyongyang Press

SK2901055593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0443 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang, January 29 (KCNA)—Papers today report that classical works of the great leader President Kim Il-song were reported in various countries.

President Kim Il-song received messages from President Felix Houphouet-Boigny in reply to his message of greetings on the occasion of the national day of the Republic of Cote d'ivoire and from Prime Minister Vere Cornwall Bird in reply to his message of greetings on the occasion of the 11th anniversary of the independence of Antigua and Barbuda, says NODONG SINMUN.

The paper gives an account of a mass meeting held in Nepal to support the new year address of President Kim Il-song.

The paper introduces achievements made in the light industry for 35 years since the publication of the historical work "for the further development of light industry" by President Kim Il-song.

Works of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il were disseminated and studied in different countries, says the press.

Spotlighted in the press is a report that Comrade Kim Chong-il sent thanks to the medical workers of the hospital of the Sinchang coal mine and the Hamhung traumatic orthopedic hospital in South Hamgyong Province who had shown utmost sincerity and set an example in medical treatment. NODONG SINMUN carries news that South Korean people expressed ardent reverence for President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il and a report that an Indian paper carried the brief history of their revolutionary activities.

Under the title "The Dear Leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is Great Master of Leadership Who Brings New History of Prosperity and Development to Korea", the paper rounds up words of foreign public figures and publications.

An article of the paper says that the Chongsu chemical factory has been turned into a large chemical industrial base of the country under the wise leadership of the great leader and the dear leader.

The paper runs an article headlined "Popular Policy and Advantages of Korean-Style Socialism".

The paper gives much space to introducing the Sonbong County integrated farm in North Hamgyong Province at which the all-people ownership system has been established on a county scale.

Econews of the press includes reports that industrial establishments across the country have finished their January assignments ahead of the set time.

Appearing in the press is a statement of the Central Committee of the South Korean National Democratic Front denouncing the official announcement of the United States and the South Korean authorities that they would stage the "Team Spirit 93" joint military exercises.

It is 35 years since the United States made the first shipment of nuclear weapons into South Korea. In this connection, papers carry a statement of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, an account of its interview with home and foreign reporters and articles exposing the schemings of the U.S. imperialists to convert South Korea into their nuclear base.

The press draws the attention of the readers to the joint air war exercises staged by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets in the skies above South Korea.

It is reported in the press that the 100th birth anniversary of Soong Chingling was commemorated in China, the Indonesian president criticized the economic pressure of the West, the leader of the Islamic revolution of Iran rejected the interference of the United States in its internal affairs, the Ugandan president called for economic independence among the member nations of the Southern African preferential trade area and the Egyptian president laid stress on strengthening the campaign against terrorism.

The press informs the readers of the Cambodian situation before the presidential elections and general election.

NODONG SINMUN runs a commentary condemning the Japanese ruling circles for conducting a campaign for constitutional revision to open the door of overseas dispatch of the "Self-Defence Forces" and MINJU CHOSON a commentary flailing the outbursts of the new chairman of the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee for Asian and Pacific affairs about its hostile policy against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

NODONG SINMUN comes out with a commentary titled "Why Is Japan Trying To Keep U.S. Troops in Asia."

An article of MINJU CHOSON exposes the deplorable human rights situation in the United States.

South Korea

Envoy: Kunadze To Suggest Revising DPRK Pact

SK0102113393 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 1010 GMT 1 Feb 93

[By reporter Kim Chin-su]

[Text] It has been learned that Russian Vice Foreign Minister Kunadze met with Hong Sun-yong, ROK ambassador to Russia, on 21 January before his four-day visit to North Korea as a special envoy of the Russian Government. Kunadze expressed to our government Russia's position on his visit to North Korea.

A Foreign Ministry official said today that Vice Minister Kunadze had said that during his visit to North Korea, he would urge North Korean authorities to make continued efforts to improve South-North relations, including the North's giving up its nuclear development. Kunadze would actively recommend to them that they take a drastic opening-up policy.

Vice Minister Kunadze also said he would try to achieve a normalization in Russian-North Korean relations, which have been estranged for a while, because unnecessary aggravation of relations with North Korea is not desirable for security on the Korean peninsula. He added that the purpose of the visit was not to explain or excuse the improving ROK-Russia relations.

The Foreign Ministry official said Vice Minister Kunadze also mentioned that he would suggest revising some articles of the agreement on friendship and cooperation between Russia and North Korea signed in 1961, including an article on automatic military interference, which is contrary to the ROK-Russia Basic Agreement.

The official anticipates that results of Vice Minister Kunadze's visit to North Korea will be delivered to our country through diplomatic channels.

It is regarded as an unusual diplomatic consideration that Russia, which was an ally of North Korea, notified our government of its visit to North Korea in advance. This is also a good sign that clearly shows in which direction the Russian Government's diplomatic affiliation is moving regarding the South and North.

DPRK Requests Assistance in Development Plan

SK0102071393 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 1 Feb 93 p 1

[Text] North Korea officially requested the participation of ROK's major business groups in the fourth seven-year plan for development of its national economy, which begins next year.

According to this request, some business groups have already received an invitation to visit the North from Kim Tal-hyon, North Korean deputy premier and chairman of the State Planning Committee. Thus, they intend to submit the request for permission to visit the North to the Ministry of National Unification soon.

North Korea unified its diversified channels for economic cooperation with South Korea, including Koryo National Industrial Firm (Choe Chong-kun) and Samcholli Trade Corporation (Pak Kyong-won), into one channel handled by the International Trade Promotion Committee. North Korea appointed vice minister-level official to the post in charge of South Korean business affairs. Accordingly, the North integrated all North-South economic cooperation into one channel centered on Kim Tal-hyon's system.

According to relevant government authorities and business circles, on 1 February North Korean Deputy Premier Kim Tal-hyon held secret meetings with relevant high-ranking officials from the Samsung Group and the Lucky Gold-Star Group in Beijing from 8 to 10 December last year. At the meeting, he requested active participation of South Korean enterprises in North Korea's economic development.

This request was made just before Kim Tal-hyon was appointed chairman of the State Planning Committee, which establishes and supervises North Korea's economic plans, at North Korea's Supreme People's Assembly held on 11 December last year, thus attracting people's attention.

In addition to Deputy Premier Kim, Yi Song-tae, chairman of the Committee for External Economic Affairs; Yi Song-nok, chairman of the Committee for the Promotion of Foreign Trade, and five other important officials responsible for North Korea's economic opening, including the figure in charge of South Korean affairs in the International Trade Promotion Committee, attended the secret talks with South Korean entrepreneurs.

At these talks, Deputy Premier Kim asked Samsung and Lucky Gold-Star to "participate not only in the fourth seven-year plan but also in this year's various economic plans."

Deputy Premier Kim stated that "the truth behind the North Korean economy has not been known to the outside. But North Korea will push ahead with its economic opening by gradually revealing its real situation to the outside." He then promised to South Korean businessmen to "take them to any place in North Korea they want to go."

Deputy Premier Kim was also reported to have said that since the Najin-Sonbong zone will play the role of a strategic point in Northeast Asia, it would be good for South Korean business groups to make long-term investments in this zone and to start manufacturing businesses in the Nampo area as a short-term project.

It was confirmed that Deputy Premier Kim strongly requested South Korean business groups to send various facilities to North Korea and to begin various manufacturing businesses with North Korea's cheap labor forces. North Korea is reported to be urgently in need of foreign currency.

Relevant officials of Samsung and Lucky Gold-Star put forward their opinions that the building of electronics, daily necessities, and chemical plants in North Korea is desirable. It was revealed that North Korea will also send a request to other major South Korean business groups for their participation in its economic plans. Thus, it seems that the North side is striving to realize economic cooperation with the South Korea in a diversified manner.

It was known that the relevant North Korean officials will prepare various detailed implementation regulations concerning investments of foreign businessmen, including South Korean entrepreneurs, and will officially announce these regulations by the end of the first half of this year.

Daily Examines Reshuffle of DPRK Officials

SK2901135793 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 28 Jan 93 p 6

[Article by reporter An Hui-chang]

[Text] The personnel reshuffle of key North Korean party and government posts plunges North Korea into confusion. This makes us curious.

A government source said that we are particularly interested in Kim Chong-il's delayed election as chairman of the National Defense Commission [NDC]; Premier Kang Song-san's failure to appear in public; and the reshuffle of the party Central Committee's secretaries, including Yun Ki-pok, who have been in charge of South Korean affairs.

North Korea revised its Constitution in April 1992. The revised Constitution specifies that "the DPRK president's right to command the overall armed forces" be transferred to the NDC. As a result, Kim Chong-il, first vice chairman of the NDC and supreme commander of the Korean People's Army, will succeed Kim Il-song as the NDC chairman "as soon as possible."

However, North Korea has left the NDC chairmanship vacant for more than eight months. An informed source said: "In view of the fact that "Kim Il-song uprecedentedly emphasized 'the entire Army's perfect unity' and that the Army's rallies supporting Kim Chong-il are being held in succession, Kim Chong-il has failed to control the Army completely." The source added: "We believe this is why Kim Chong-il has failed to take office as NDC chairman."

Another government official said: "The law regarding a government post often differs from the actual description of the post." This official added: "Although the NDC chairmanship appears vacant, Kim Il-song can hold the NDC chairmanship as chairman of the party's Central Military Commission, but not as DPRK president."

We are also quite interested in Kang Song-san's activities after taking office. Kang Song-san, who was appointed premier on 11 December 1992, has not been officially active so far. Since his appointment, he has not appeared at any of the official events he ought to attend in the capacity of premier, including the meeting of judicial functionaries throughout the country; the central report meeting marking the 20th anniversary of proclamation of the socialist constitution; and the gathering to greet the New Year.

In particular, the premier's attendance at Constitution Day events and the New Year's gathering has been customary. Thus, allegations about Kang's deteriorating health are most convincing. When Kang held the position of responsible secretary of North Hamgyong provincial party committee before his appointment as premier, his health deteriorated so much he needed a nurse to accompany him on an inspection trip. Thus, people believe his condition has worsened.

The reshuffle of party secretaries also attracts people's attention. It is almost certain that Yun Ki-pok, who was in charge of South Korean affairs, was transferred to the post of secretary in the cultural field. At a ceremony in 1988 to mark the 60th anniversary of the publication of SAENAL, a newspaper which was reportedly first published during the anti-Japanese struggle period, Choe Tae-pok, then secretary in charge of education, made a speech. However, Yun Ki-pok made a speech at the ceremony on 15 January on the occasion of the 65th anniversary of its publication. In addition, Yun attended a gathering to convey Kim Il-song's thank-you message to Kim Il-song University for translating Oriental medicine terms into our language. All of this supports the allegation about the transfer of Yun Ki-pok to another post. Yun has held the post of chairman of North Korea's Headquarters of the National Alliance for the Country's Reunification, an organization under the supervision of the Department of the United Front [DUF] [tongil chonsonbu]. The DUF is in charge of South Korean affairs. However, Yun was replaced by Paek In-chun, chairman of the General Federation of Unions of Literature and Arts of Korea. This serves as indirect proof that Yun was relieved of his post in the DUF. Accordingly, the question of who is Yun's successor is a matter of interest. However, this has not been clearly revealed so far. Speculation is that since Choe Tae-pok, who was previously in charge of education, was transferred to the post for international affairs, it is possible that Kim Yong-sun, previously in charge of international affairs, may have taken over South Korean affairs. However, some analysts think that since Kim conducted foreign affairs relatively satisfactorily, the possibility of Kim's transfer to another post is not great. Accordingly, it is possible that Kim Yong-sun might have been assigned to both international and South Korean affairs with a view to linking improvement in North Korea-U.S. and North Korea-Japan relations with the North-South issue.

There Is No Change in Policy Toward the South

There is speculation that the Yun Ki-pok reshuffle was a way to call him to task for his failure in the Workers Party of Korea in South Korea and for his subordinates' acceptance of bribes in connection with visit of Korean compatriots in Japan to the North.

North Korea's future domestic and foreign policies will be clearly defined when such "questionable points" concerning the personnel reshuffle are clarified. However, an official in the Ministry of National Unification said that "whoever becomes party secretary in charge of South Korean affairs, there will be no noticeable change in North Korean policy toward the South."

DP Comments on Secret Visit to North Viewed

SK2901094193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0731 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 29 (YONHAP)—Yi Won-chong, vice spokesman of the majority Democratic Liberal Party (DLP), sniped at opposition lawmakers Friday for visiting America to question an American columnist who reported on a secret visit by President-elect Kim Yong-sam's aides to North Korea.

It was "outdated flunkeyism" for legislators to go to the United States to confirm a groundless report by a "mere foreign columnist," Yi said. It was "pitiable," he added.

Yi urged the Democratic Party [DP] to stop such "consumptive and non-productive actions" to break national reconciliation when the people were full of resolve to create a "new Korea" and revitalize the sagging economy by joining forces.

Rep. Son Se-il, head of the Democratic Party team that is investigating the secret visit, said Thursday that Jack Anderson had told them that the story on the North Korean visit by Kim's aides was based on CIA documents.

Anderson's story was aired on Dec. 14, 1992, in a radio column on the UPI radio network.

North Steps Up Diplomatic Activities Abroad

SK2901093593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0717 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 29 (YONHAP)—North Korea has stepped up its diplomatic activities by sending senior diplomats to visit Asian, European, Latin American and Middle Eastern countries this month, a senior South Korean Foreign Ministry official said Friday.

A delegation led by Vice Foreign Minister Chong Tae-hwa began a tour of Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia on Wednesday, while Chi Chae-yong, a vice director of the Workers' (Communist) Party International Department, had been sent to Thailand, Nepal and India at the head of a mission.

Kim Hyong-u, a vice director of the party's International Department, led a delegation to Cuba, Peru, Ecuador and Brazil from Jan. 14.

Kim Kye-kwan, a roving ambassador, visited Bulgaria and Hungary on Tuesday and is expected to go on to Germany, Sweden, Finland and the Netherlands.

Chang Song-kil, a vice foreign minister, visited Egypt and Algeria from Tuesday and will go to Tunisia.

The purpose of all of these visits appeared to be to explain North Korea's position on inter-Korean relations and to denounce resumption of the South Korea-U.S. annual military exercise "Team Spirit," the official said.

At the same time, North Korea was proposing ways to improve relations, including exchanges of trade representatives.

North Korea had probably adopted such roundabout diplomacy because of its difficulty mending ties with the United States and Japan, he said.

North Rejects IAEA Facilities Inspection

SK3101143993 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 1200 GMT 31 Jan 93

[Text] Japan's TOKYO SHIMBUN reports that North Korea has recently rejected part of the nuclear inspection that the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] was going to conduct in North Korea. Citing a government source, TOKYO SHIMBUN reported that the North Korean authorities rejected the inspection on the grounds that the facilities in the Yongbyon area, which the IAEA regards as nuclear-related facilities, are military facilities that have nothing to do with the nuclear issue, thereby rendering the whole nuclear inspection at a stalemate.

Press Reacts to U.S. Steel Tariffs

SK0102022593

[Editorial Report] ROK reaction to the Clinton administration's preliminary decision to impose punitive tariffs on steel imported from the ROK and overall U.S. trade policy is noticeably strong, and almost all vernacular dailies have carried editorials or articles pertaining to U.S. moves and ROK countermeasures.

The conservative daily CHOSON ILBO on 29 January on page 3 carries a 1,200-word editorial entitled "The United States Comes Pouring In." Pointing to the U.S. Commerce Department's preliminary decision to impose high anti-dumping tariffs on imported ROK steel products, the paper predicts that "trade pressure by the new Clinton administration will become fiercer" and notes that such pressure is "unfortunate" to the ROK, though such measures are "inevitable" for the United States due protect its national interests. The editorial points out that despite the United States' comprehensive import restrictions, the ROK has no "clear, effective, and substantive measures" against U.S. trade pressure and urges relevant ROK authorities to seek new trade relations with the United States based on mutual trust.

HANGUK ILBO on 29 January on page 2 carries a 1,100-word editorial entitled, "What is the United States' Trade Strategy?" Paying keen attention to the new U.S. administration's trade policy and describing U.S. markets as "the arena of competition of world commodities," the paper stresses that if the ROK is pushed out of this market, it will lose its international competitiveness and that if the United States intensifies protectionism, ROK enterprises will suffer a "fatal blow." Explaining the details of the recent U.S. imposition of punitive tariffs on steel products from various nations, the paper calls on the ROK to "diversify its negotiating strategy toward the United States" while accepting what has to be accepted, preserving interests that should be preserved, and systematically strengthening negotiation capabilities. The editorial expresses the hope that the Clinton administration will develop the tradition of "free trade" worthy of the world's only superpower leading the new global order.

The liberal Korean daily TONG-A ILBO on 29 January carries a 1,200-word editorial entitled "We Are Looking Out for United States' Protectionism". Pointing to the U.S. imposition of punitive tariffs on ROK and other nations' steel products, the paper notes that "the world seems to be on the eve of a global trade war" and that "the stagnant U.S. economy" cannot simply be blamed on deficits in various trade transactions but was instead prompted by the United States "failure" to properly adjust its industrial structure and "cope with the trend of the changing world economy." Stressing that if the world falls into trade protectionism due to the United States' "unilateral trade policy" the United States will also suffer "damage," the article calls for U.S. "self-restraint."

The moderate Korean daily CHUNGANG ILBO on 29 January carries a 1,200-word editorial entitled "What Are the Measures Against the United States' Anti-Dumping Offensive?" Describing the Clinton administration's recent decision on tariffs on foreign-made steel products as the "first work" for the implementation of Clinton's election pledge to safeguard national interests, the article points to analysts' observations that this is a "signal" for an international trade war and urges the United States to build "a new free trade system" based on the satisfactory settlement of Uruguay Round negotiations before it attempts to strengthen its "indiscriminate trade retaliation." The paper then stresses that we should not merely call the United States to account for such action but should prepare "concrete material" to prove the "unjustness" of the anti-dumping decision. Noting ROK export businesses are in a "state of emergency" due to trade pressure, the paper urges the ROK to realize a "joint step" among government, businesses, and citizens to drastically increase the working-level and technological capabilities to counter various trade problems, as well as improve negotiation ability.

MAEIL KYONGJE SINMUN, an economic daily, on 29 January carries a 1,100-word editorial entitled "Increasing the Trade Offensive Against the ROK." Pointing to recent anti-dumping tariffs imposed on ROK steel products, the paper explains in detail the new U.S. administration's trade policy, including the protection of the semiconductor industry from the viewpoints of national security and protecting the automobile industry. The article points out three factors that always put the ROK in a "disadvantageous position." These factors include "incorrect business reports, the lack of competitiveness of commodities, and the government's lack of determination for 'fair transaction.'" The paper then stresses that "before the ROK calls others to account, it should make its own attitude just and fair."

KYONGHYANG SINMUN on 29 January carries a 1,500-word article entitled "The Crisis in Exporting Steel Products to the United States." The article details damages that will be suffered by each ROK steel exporter due to the recent U.S. decision on anti-dumping tariffs for imported steel. The article concludes by stating that the Clinton administration's decision is regarded as "a prelude to protectionism."

The pro-government daily SEOUL SINMUN on 1 February carries a 1,000-word editorial entitled "Let Us Work Out Measures for Our Survival in the World Trade War." Pointing to the recent U.S. decision on anti-dumping tarrifs for steel products and to Japan's moves for tarrifs on compound metals, the editorial notes that the danger of a world trade war is increasing. Stressing that "the trade war is more dangerous than the cold war," the paper warns that in the event that the new U.S. administration pushes ahead with a "unilateral offensive", the trade war will be "inevitable" but will not be beneficial to the U.S. economy. The editorial asserts that the United States interprets anti-dumping decisions "in its own way," going against the "spirit of free trade." The article concludes by urging the ROK to shape its "strategy for survival."

Kim Yong-sam on U.S. Military's Future Role

SK2901042293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0241 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 29 (YONHAP)—The role of the U.S. military in South Korea will become more important in the uncertain post-cold war security situation, President-elect Kim Yong-sam predicted Friday.

Kim, meeting with Stephen Solarz, a former chairman of the U.S. House Subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Affairs, affirmed that Korea's diplomatic pillars will stand with the United States and Japan.

"President Bill Clinton and I agreed to strengthen bilateral relations during our telephone conversation last year," Kim was quoted as telling Solarz.

He hoped that the wave of democratization in South Korea would reach North Korea, and pledged changes and reform to create a new South Korea.

Seoul Prepares for Trade Friction With U.S.

SK2901024693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0137 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 29 (YONHAP)—South Korea has to prepare for new elements of friction with the United States with escalating criticism in American industry and introduction of new trade laws, officials here warned Friday.

U.S. President Bill Clinton's administration is readying new export control regulations requiring State Department scrutiny before overseas investment and an update in customs procedures.

These new trade bills, though opposed by some industrial sectors, are virtually assured of passage by summer since the Democrats dominate both Congress and the administration.

C & M international, a U.S. legal consultant for the Korea Foreign Trade Association (KFTA) on South Korea-U.S. trade issues, has sent a report alerting Seoul of the revival of the Super 301 trade act.

Come April, Washington may squeeze Seoul by upgrading it from a priority watch country to a priority foreign country in intellectual property rights because of longstanding dissatisfaction by the U.S. industry.

The software industry insists some 80 percent of pirated copies come from Korea, and Seoul's inadequate protection measures against piracy are costing the United States 30 million U.S. dollars in losses a year.

The United States is criticizing moves in Seoul to lift export recommendations that regulated quotas and brand names, saying it will only encourage the spread of fake labels, the C & M report said.

Seoul should rely on the President's Economic Initiative (PEI) consultations to block lobbying by American industries and should raise as many issues as possible at the Uruguay Round [UR] multilateral trade talks, the report recommended.

The UR results will decide Seoul-Washington trade relations for five to six years, and the only way to ease friction is to discuss possible problems beforehand at the Uruguay Round, it said.

Sending Police to Somalia Reportedly Preferred

SK2901013593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0004 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 29 (YONHAP)—South Korea hopes to send police or government officials rather than a military contingent if the United Nations asks for a dispatch to the peacekeeping operation [PKO] in Somalia.

Yu Chong-ha, South Korean ambassador to the United Nations, disclosed the government plan Thursday when he called on Chong Won-sik, chairman of President-elect Kim Yong-sam's transition team, according to team officials.

The United States and its allies have expressed hope that Korea will send a military contingent to Somalia as part of the PKO, but the government is trying to avoid sending military forces because there is a strong possibility of combat resulting in casualties, the officials said.

If the government sends a police unit, it would not be asked to take part in military action but assigned to guard important facilities or maintain security. Civilians could provide technical support for the U.N. peacekeeping mission, the officials said.

U.S. Reportedly Denies Visas to DPRK Assemblymen

SK3101032493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0317 GMT 31 Jan 93

[Text] Tokyo, Jan. 31 (YONHAP)—The United States refused to issue visas to six North Korean Supreme People's Assembly delegates who wanted to visit there recently, a Japanese daily said Sunday.

In a Washington-datelined story, the MAINICHI SHIMBUN quoted a U.S. official as explaining that if the U.S. Government allowed the North Koreans to visit there, it might give them the misleading hope for the bilateral ties when the nuclear issue was not solved. It is the first show of intention by the U.S. Government headed by President Bill Clinton against North Korea.

The North Korean delegates including Kim yong-sun, director of the international department of the Workers' Party Central Committee, hoped to participate in a congressional meeting to be held Feb. 3-4 in Washington, MAINICHI said.

The meeting at which the participants will exchange views and pray for the prosperity of the United States is to be attended by politicians, religious leaders and diplomats from 120 countries, according to MAINICHI.

North Korea had hoped to take part in the meeting to promote the Washington-Pyongyang parliamentary exchanges and delve into the Clinton administration's policy toward North Korea, it said.

The daily quoted the U.S. official as saying that there will be no substantial progress in North Korea-U.S. relations as far as the communist country's nuclear problem has yet to be resolved.

North Korea proposed the parliamentary exchanges to the United States and the latter permitted a North Korean deputy chief of mission to the United Nations to visit Washington for the first time late last year.

Private Economic Delegation Leaves for Vietnam

SK2901063093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0603 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 29 (YONHAP)—A 45-member private economic delegation headed by Kim Sang-ha, president of the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry, left for Hanoi on Friday for an eight-day tour of Vietnamese industrial facilities.

The mission will attend the first meeting of the Korea-Vietnam economic cooperation committee while in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, conduct a survey of the investment environment and visit major industrial installations.

SRV Premier Plans Visit 'This Year'

SK3001100093 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0800 GMT 30 Jan 93

[Text] In a special interview with a Korean Broadcast System reporter, Vietnamese Premier Vo Van Kiet said he hopes that ROK-Vietnam economic cooperation will expand.

This is the first interview Premier Vo Van Kiet has given to ROK media in his office in Saigon. He said in the interview that ROK-Vietnam diplomatic relations established at the end of 1992 gave the two countries an opportunity for new development in their relations. He also asked many ROK businesses to participate in Vietnam's economic development.

Regarding the inauguration of the new ROK Government, Premier Vo Van Kiet said he is confident that President-elect Kim Yong-sam will live up to the two countries' promises when he takes office next month. He also said he plans to visit the ROK some time this year.

Foreign Minister To Arrive 1 Feb

SK3101112993 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 1100 GMT 31 Jan 93

[Text] At the invitation of Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok, Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam will pay an official visit to the ROK on 1 February. He will stay for five days and pay courtesy calls on President No Tae-u and President-elect Kim Yong-sam. He will also hold foreign ministers' talks and discuss ways to promote full-dress cooperative and friendly relations since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam will also sign an agreement on economic and technical cooperation between the two countries. He also plans to reach an agreement on establishing an ROK general consulate in Ho Chi Minh City. The ROK Government has been promoting this in order to help accommodate ROK businesses advancing into Ho Chi Minh City after diplomatic ties were established.

Pusan Refugee Center for Vietnamese Closes

SK2901094393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0908 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Pusan, South Korea, Jan. 29 (YONHAP)—The Vietnamese refugee center in Pusan was formally closed Friday at a tearful ceremony attended by 150 refugees and dignitaries, including Pae Myong-chang, head of Pusan branch of the Korean National Red Cross.

The last Vietnamese refugees are to leave for New Zealand in three lots early next month for permanent resettlement.

Pae told them in a pep speech that he hoped they would have a happy and free life on their new land.

Vietnamese children sang a traditional Korean song of departure called "Arirang" and thanked the Korean Government for taking care of them.

No Tuk-chong, 40, said on behalf of his compatriots that he would never forget the sympathetic feelings of Koreans toward them.

John Mena of the United States and his wife Sarah were honored by the Korean National Red Cross for their unsparing support for the refugee center since 1989.

The center has seen 1,382 Vietnamese "boat people" pass through its gates since 1977. Among them, 1,232 left for 15 countries including the United States and the Netherlands.

Japanese UNSC Permanent Membership Opposed

SK2901021093 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 29 Jan 93 p 6

[Editorial: "Japan's UNSC Permanent Membership"]

[Text] The new Clinton administration is pushing ahead with attempts to reorganize the United Nations Security Council [UNSC] by adding Japan and Germany to its permanent membership. This move came to the surface Monday when U.S. Secretary of state Warren Christopher said that the world organization should be revamped to meet present-day realities, openly supporting the addition of the two powers as permanent UNSC members.

As early as last September, the Bush administration expressed a positive response to the idea of expanding the Security Council by 1995 when the United Nations will celebrate the 50th anniversary of its founding. The irony of history is that Japan and Germany, along with Italy, were the losers of World War II which led to the creation of the world body.

Japan and Germany have both strenuously engaged in ground-work to occupy permanent seats in the powerful Security Council in recent years. As domestic preparations, they are moving ahead with the revision of their respective "peace" Constitutions. The revisions will allow Germany to lift its constitutional ban on military contingents going out of the NATO area and free Japan from the constitutional provisions calling for the renunciation of war. On the international stage, the two countries have initially sought active participation in peace-keeping operations (PKO) in conflict-ridden areas of the world under the UN flag.

Noteworthy in this connection is Japanese Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe's statement in early October last year that his country's strengthening of cooperation with the UN in peace-keeping operations was in pursuit of its permanent membership in the Security Council.

Now that the United Nations and particularly the Security Council have become the main arena for international politics in the post-Cold War era, the reorganization will signify a change in the world's power structure itself. If Germany and Japan become permanent UNSC members, it also means that the two countries will have the condemnation as war criminals formally cleared by the world community.

However, we believe that such an absolution is still too early as far as Japan is concerned. Japan has failed to convince Korea and its neighbors that it has fully atoned for the heinous acts it perpetrated against them in the past up until the end of World War II.

Among the many issues Korea and Japan need to settle are the question of "comfort women" who were forced to serve Japanese soldiers during the war, the legal status of Korean nationals residing in Japan, who mostly were taken to Japan for hard labor, and the compensation of others who suffered in various other atrocities of war.

Above all, we maintain that Japan should first make earnest apology for its past crimes against the Korean and other peoples before trying to have its international status elevated, up to the permanent membership in the UN Security Council.

Notwithstanding, Japan adamantly refuses a heartfelt expression of repentance, even teaching a distorted and false history of Korea-Japan relations to its growing generation. Its leaders have time and again resorted to semantic trickery on their visits to Asian neighbors in efforts to avoid making direct apologies to the host peoples.

Under these circumstances, the Korean people cannot and should not support Japan's permanent UNSC membership, an act tantamount to the world body's complete forgiving of Japan's responsibility for the war with all its inhuman atrocities and its reinstatement to world leadership.

Our government is urged to clarify the position of the Korean people internationally.

'Gradual Rejuvenation of Economy' Supported

SK2901121093 Seoul YONHAP in English 1114 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 29 (YONHAP)—Deputy Prime Minister and Economic Planning Minister Choe Kak-kyu said Friday this is a time to wait for the gradual rejuvenation of economy rather than to hastily look forward to business recovery.

"The economy will steadily enter the track of recovery during the first half of this year, and in the second half recovery will be attained to an extent we initially hoped for," Choe said.

While meeting with reporters, Choe said the desirable path of the Korean economy is to gain, through steady efforts, a viable recovery based on price stability and productivity increase.

The deputy premier said that as experienced in the past, a demand-expansion policy not backed up by proper productivity increase would see its efficacy short-lived and would only result in lingering ill effects.

These remarks seem targeted against those among majority party officials and business leaders who advocate business buoyance measures.

According to him, the present business stagnation is owing chiefly to declining demand prompted by stabilization policies and weakened industrial competitiveness.

"If demand-expansion measures were taken under the circumstances, they would only result in the resurgence of speculative investment, inflationary trend and imports increase as we experienced several years ago, leading to the aggravation of the international payments' position," Choe said.

He also emphasized the need of wage stabilization, saying, "Now that prices remain stabilized, a base has been laid on which wages can be stabilized within the extent of productivity."

Court Upholds Ruling Against Representative

SK2901120293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0857 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 29 (YONHAP)—The Supreme Court on Friday upheld a lower court ruling against Rep. So Sok-chae, an influential member of the Democratic Liberal Party, on election law violations.

Also Friday, it found substance in the appeal of Rep. Yi Pu-yong, a member of the Supreme Council of the main opposition Democratic Party, against conviction on National Security Law charges and sent his case back to Seoul district appellate court.

The rulings attracted keen interest in political circles and among the general public because the nation's highest court rejected So's appeal as "groundless."

As a result, So, a three-term representative and key confidant of President-elect Kim Yong-sam, will serve one year in prison with a two-year suspended sentence.

With the loss of his right to be elected to public office, So will lose his National Assembly seat.

So, the first incumbent National Assemblyman to lose his seat due to a court ruling, is unable to run for public office for six years from the day of his sentencing.

So was charged with bribery during a by-election in Tonghae city in Kangwon Province in April 1989, when he paid 50 million won to Yi Hong-sop, the then New Democratic Republican Party candidate, to withdraw from the race and let candidate Yi Kwan-hyong of the then Democratic Party, which was led by Kim Yong-sam, win.

Following the Supreme Court decision, So issued a statement saying that he would abide by the ruling.

Pak Hui-tae, spokesman of the Democratic Liberal Party, said it was natural for citizens to abide by the rulings of the courts. Those who had tried to misinterpret or distort the court's intentions should be ashamed of themselves, he said.

As for Rep. Yi, the Supreme Court sent his case back to Seoul district court, which had found him guilty on charges including violation of the law concerning labor disputes.

Justice Pak Man-ho said that the lower court should not have indicted Yi on charges of violating the labor dispute law just because he addressed a rally at Hyundai Heavy

Industries Co. in Ulsan. The law prohibits a third party from getting involved in labor disputes.

Yi was convicted of three other charges, but the Supreme Court's finding on one count nullified the lower court ruling, Pak said.

The ruling allows Yi to retain his seat in the National Assembly while his case goes back to the starting point.

Yi was arrested in March 1989 on suspicion of violating the National Security Law by, as permanent chairman of Chonminnyon, or the National Alliance of Democratic Movements, planning a pan-Korean people's assembly.

He was sentenced to two years in prison and deprived of his civil rights for one year. On appeal, his sentence was reduced to one year in prison and one year suspension of civil rights.

Yi won the March 24 general elections in Seoul's Kangdong-A district after he was released from prison.

The main opposition Democratic Party and the United People's Party welcomed the Supreme Court ruling for Yi. The opposition parties expressed hope that Friday's decision would serve as a turning point for abolition of the National Security Law.

Investigation of Bribery Charges Ordered

SK2901094093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0700 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 29 (YONHAP)—Prime Minister Hyon Sung-chong instructed officials Friday to clear up any suspicion caused by a prosecution investigation that government officials had taken money from the Hyundai Business Group.

"There should not be the slightest taint on government officials that could trigger public suspicion about official corruption," he told a meeting of senior officials.

The prosecution has reportedly found that money from a Hyundai slush fund "flowed" into the hands of government officials during campaigning for last month's presidential election.

The Seoul district prosecutor's office, meanwhile, will indict Choe Su-il, president of Hyundai Heavy Industries Co., and two other company officials on charges of violating the law concerning economic crimes.

Choe and Chang Pyong-su, managing director of the company, and Yi Sang-kyu, head of the financing department, are under arrest on suspicion of diverting 66 billion won, part of the money their company received for exports of ships, to a company slush fund.

Of the total, 51 billion won was funneled to the United People's Party for campaign funds for Chong Chu-yong, the party's presidential candidate and founder of the Hyundai Group.

"Following their indictment, the prosecution will continue to investigate suspicions over the use of part of the slush fund as bribes for government officials," an official at the prosecutor's office said.

"As soon as evidence firms up, the prosecution plans to call in government officials for questioning," he said, requesting anonymity.

The prosecution expected to indict Chong without physical detention on charges of violating the presidential election law and embezzlement, he said. Chong is currently in Beppu, northern Kyushu, Japan.

No Decision on Investment in Cable Television

SK2901093993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0737 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 29 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government has not yet made any decision on whether to allow foreign investment in cable television, the Economic Planning Board (EPB) announced Friday.

The topic was raised Dec. 28 last year at an interministerial meeting presided over by Deputy Prime Minister Choe Kak-kyu, EPB spokesman Meng Chungchu said. The meeting discussed comprehensive measures to cope with U.S. demands on intellectual property protection but did not set a policy on foreign investment on cable television.

Companies Seek To Issue Securities Abroad

SK2901093493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0711 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 29 (YONHAP)—Big South Korean firms are actively seeking to issue securities abroad, such as convertible bonds (CB) and deposit receipts (DR), to finance overseas advancement and facility investment.

Thirteen are poised to issue overseas securites worth 900 million U.S. dollars, mainly in the United States and Europe.

Among them, 11—Hansol Paper Co., Dongah Construction Industry Co., Daewoo Corp., Samyang Co., Jinro Ltd., Yukong Ltd., Samsung Electronic Co., Ssangyong Oil Refining Co., Ssangyong Motor Co., Orion Electric Co., and Lucky Ltd.—will float 725 million dollars of securities abroad by June.

Hansol held investment explanatory seminars in Tokyo and New York on Thursday, aiming to issue 30 million dollars in DRs.

In the first half of last year, 310 million dollars of CBs and DRs were issued by three firms, including Pohang Iron and Steel Co.

The overseas securities totaled 636 million dollars by 10 companies in 1992.

Goldstar Co. and Korea Mobile Telecommunications Corp. hope to issue 100 million dollars and 75 million dollars of securities abroad, respectively.

But Goldstar may delay the plan to latter half of the year and Korea Mobile is having difficulty issuing securities abroad due to its industry.

More companies are expected to issue overseas securities, which have relatively long maturity and low interest, after the new government revises regulations on overseas stocks to strengthen international competitiveness and expand facility investment.

DLP To Reform Administrative Districts

SK2901060893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0520 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 29 (YONHAP)—The ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] has decided to undertake a large-scale reform of administrative districts, dividing some of the heavily populated Provinces and creating cities within cities in Seoul, Pusan and Taejon.

The DLP also hopes to simplify local administrative works by eliminating "Up" (town) and "Myon" (a subdivision of a "Kun," or county).

These plans were contained in a report submitted Friday by the DLP policy committee to President-elect Kim Yong-sam.

The committee said it will continue to study redistricting of local administrative units, keeping in mind eventual presidential elections in a unified Korea.

The report was viewed by many as a DLP effort to reorganize local administrative units before the nation holds elections of chiefs of local autonomous bodies in or before 1995.

The report said that in order to promote administrative efficiency, speed up local development and better accommodate citizens the party plans to create more provinces out of populous provinces like Kyonggi and North Kyongsang.

The DLP also called for the creation of cities within large cities such as the special city of Seoul and five other large, administratively independent cities—Pusan, Taejon, Kwangju, Taegu and Inchon.

The party will consider upgrading large Ups to cities and large cities to special cities. In the past, an area with a population of 50,000 or more qualified as a city.

In a large metropolitan area like Seoul, where millions of people live, the party would upgrade four or five of the most populous "Ku" (districts) to cities within the special city, the report said.

Probe Urged Into No So-yong's Money in U.S.

SK2901035893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0317 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 29 (YONHAP)—The opposition Democratic Party [DP] demanded Friday that the prosecution investigate the stashing of 200,000 U.S. dollars in U.S. bank accounts by President No Tae-u's daughter and her husband.

"(The incident) greatly damaged national dignity and heightened public suspicion against the rich and government officials," party spokesman Pak U-sop said.

No's daughter, No So-yong, and her husband, Choe Tae-won, pleaded guilty Thursday to charges of concealing money from the U.S. authorities at district court in San Jose, California.

In a plea bargain, they agreed to forfeit the 192,576 U.S. dollars they had hidden and pay fines of 30,000 dollars each.

Mass Media Expected To Undergo Restructuring

SK2901035493 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 29 Jan 93 p 7

[By staff reporter Yu Kun-ha]

[Text] The nation's mass media sector appears to be in for another round of restructuring this year.

Competition among media firms is already pretty intense but it is likely to further increase as a result of the expected structural changes.

In the print media, a major change is in store as the TONG-A ILBO, one of the nation's most influential dailies, plans to switch from an evening paper to a morning paper.

All Korean dailies except one print either a morning paper or an evening paper. The exception is the HANGUK ILBO which puts out both editions.

In the electronic media, changes will take place in provincial cities, as President-elect Kim Yong-sam had pledged to allow private TV stations during the presidential election campaign.

In addition, the planned conversion of AFKN-TV [Armed Forces Korea Network] from a VHF (very high frequency) channel to a UHF (ultrahigh frequency) channel in the first half of this year may give birth to a new private nationwide TV network.

TONG-A's switch is widely expected to be made April 1, the paper's 73d anniversary. But the paper refused to confirm the exact date. According to an official in the planning department, no decision has yet been made on the future of the paper.

"We are deliberating a few options, including the switch to a morning paper. At the moment, we cannot say which of the options will be adopted," he said.

According to him, the chief reason for TONG-A's consideration of such a change is the slowing of its annual growth rate.

In Korea, evening newspapers are at a disadvantage because of people's preference of morning papers, distribution problems, and above all, advertisers' tendency to give precedence to morning papers.

In the 1980s, the TONG-A managed to overcome this disadvantage thanks to its reputation as a critic of the authoritarian governments. But the progress made in the democratization of Korean society gradually diminished the key selling point of this outspoken paper.

Many mass media analysts believe that the TONG-A will ultimately become a morning paper. If the paper goes ahead with the switch, it will greatly intensify competition among morning papers.

The morning newspaper market is already crowded with six general dailies with nationwide circulation (CHOSON, HANGUK, KYONGHYANG, HANGYORE, SEOUL and SEKYE), compared with the evening daily market where only three compete (TONG-A, CHUNGANG and GUKMIN).

TONG-A's plan to switch to a morning paper is bad news for the current morning papers, especially CHOSON, DONG-A's major rival, and HANGYORE, a more outspoken opposition paper than TONG-A.

The CHOSON ILBO is said to be reviewing measures to cope with the appearance of such a high-powered competitor. One such measure is to add more pages to their paper.

"CHOSON may attempt to increase the number of pages to gain an edge over other papers in terms of volume," said an expert.

In fact, CHOSON led the heated race in 1990 among domestic dailies toward a larger paper. To CHOSON, the possible challenge from TONG-A is viewed as a more serious threat than its previous battles with the existing morning papers. Hence, it is very likely to respond to the new challenge by adding more pages to such an extent that others would find it difficult to match.

"CHOSON will soon complete a new printing plant and this will give it an advantage in the coming war," the expert added.

The prospect for a new round of competition among dailies is pushing up the stock prices of paper manufacturers, which have tended to fall following the December presidential election.

TONG-A's probable change to a morning paper will also affect the market for economic dailies as the MAEIL KYONGJE, now the only evening economic daily, may have to follow suit because it uses TONG'A distribution outlets.

According to a MAEIL official, the paper has been contemplating a plan to shift to a morning daily. Although he refused to comment on the specific reason for such a plan, the obvious motivation is TONG-A's move to become a morning paper.

If MAEIL is forced to enter the morning economic daily market, it will aggravate the already difficult situation facing the existing four papers (CHOSON, NAEWOE, CHUNGANG and SEOUL).

The prolonged recession of the Korean economy has put these dailies in financial trouble. For example, the Korean Economic Daily, the largest of the five, is reportedly considering an across-the-board wage cut and reduction of its payroll.

Meanwhile, the planned conversion of AFKN-TV to UHF is causing a scramble for the license to operate a new private nationwide TV network.

According to an Information Ministry official, AFKN may be allowed to broadcast in ultrahigh frequency within the first half of this year.

Under an agreement between Seoul and Washington, the American military network is to return the VHF channel that it now uses to Korea "at an early date."

The ministry official said that this early date would be some time in June, as a new UHF broadcasting system provided by the Korean government for AFKN is expected to be completed by then.

"We hear that a few applicants are making preparations to inaugurate a new TV station. But the government has no current plans to allow one," the official said.

According to him, the government's plan is to leave the present AFKN channel vacant for emergency use.

"Once we begin to use the channel for private broadcasting, we won't be able to use it as a military channel in times of emergency," the official said, adding, however, that the possibility of the government changing this policy cannot be ruled out.

The leading potential applicants for a new TV channel are the Christian Broadcasting System, the Buddhist Broadcasting System and Samsung Business Group.

The two religious broadcasting systems are currently operating radio stations, while Samsung was the owner of the former Tongyang Broadcasting Corp., which was forcibly merged with the state-run KBS in 1980 by the dictatorial government under President Chon Tu-hwan.

Rumors are also circulating that the Seoul Broadcasting System [SBS] is seeking to expand its coverage this year from the present capital area to the entire nation.

"I think this is just wishful thinking on the part of SBS. We haven't considered allowing the expansion of the SBS network across the nation," the Information Ministry official commented.

A more realistic possibility is the return of regional MBC stations to private hands in accordance with President-elect Kim Yong-sam's campaign pledge to allow private TV stations in the provinces.

Prior to 1980, these stations were under the control of private individuals. But the dictatorial government "persuaded" their owners to "donate" their stock holdings to MBC in Seoul whose shares are mostly owned by KBS and other public agencies.

Some former owners of these stations still possess some shares, while others handed over all of their shares. Those who still own shares may be able to take over management of these stations by buying back shares from the MBC in Seoul.

But the government has not taken any move to allow this.

President-elect Kim Yong-sam's campaign pledge also involves the establishment of completely new TV stations in provincial cities.

"For this matter, we have no specific plan, and we haven't yet been told to prepare such a plan," the official said.

But it seems to be only a matter of time before provincial cities will have more TV channels to choose from.

DLP Suggests Limiting of Wage Increases

SK2901032693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0237 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 29 (YONHAP)—Making pay stability top priority for an economic recovery, the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] suggested Friday that the next government limit wage increases for two or three years and consider a pay freeze.

Reporting to President-elect Kim Yong-sam on how he could keep his 10 main economic campaign promises, the DLP suggested that he closely watch wage negotiations and consider freezing pay if hikes continued.

"To pull the Korean economy, which tallied its lowest growth at 2.5 percent in the final quarter of last year, out of this poor state, high wages must be tackled first," the report said.

"In this conviction, the DLP believes that without a strong policy on wage control, the current high pay standards cannot be resolved," it said.

Despite a continuous watch on pay hikes, average raises slid just 1 percent from 17 percent in 1991, it noted. Singapore froze pay of all laborers in 1984 and 1985 and reversed its minus economic growth to plus.

To start, the pay of public and state-run company officials should be frozen, it said.

Report on Foreign-Invested Ad Agencies

SK2901031493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0231 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 29 (YONHAP)—Foreign-invested advertising agencies took over over 3 percent of the broadcast market last year, the Korea Broadcasting Advertising Corp. said Friday.

Cheil Bozell, McCan Erickson, Dentsu Young and Rubicam, J. Walter Thompson and DDB Needham sold broadcast ads of 32.4 billion won (41 million U.S. dollars) last year, up 55.4 percent from 1991. That compares with 25.9 percent growth in total broadcast ads.

The five foreign companies saw sales grow 86.7 percent in 1991.

Cheil Bozell sold ads of 11.8 billion won in 1992, up 117.9 percent, and its ranking jumped to 18th place from 28th.

Dentsu Young and Rubicam's sales grew 107.6 percent and its ranking rose to 43rd from 55th.

J. Walter Thompson's output grew 104.3 percent and its ranking surged to 46th from 56th.

McCan Erickson had 11.1 billion won of sales, up 17.8 percent, but its ranking fell to 21st from 16th.

DDB Needham had 3.47 billion dollars of sales, up 13.5 percent and its ranking remained 39th.

Foreign agencies accounted for 3.4 percent of total broadcast ads, 0.7 percentage points up from 2.7 percent a year earlier.

In January, foreign agency Leo Burnett joined the market and in July Lintas is to get permission.

Total ad spending hit 963.9 billion won last year, up 25.9 percent. Television accounted for 834.2 billion won, up 29.4 percent, and radio 129.7 billion won, up 7.3 percent.

Among domestic agencies, Cheil Communications Co. sold 123.3 billion won of ads for first place and was followed by Daehong Communications Co. at 92.7 billion won, LG Ad Co. at 89.8 billion won and Korad at 73.6 billion won.

Biggest Dissident Body Dissolves To Regroup

SK2901020793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0100 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 29 (YONHAP)—The national conference for democratic reforms and government, the largest dissident organization in the country, announced Friday it will dissolve and form a new grouping so more people can participate in its activities.

Fifty executive members of the conference, which comprises scores of dissident groups, told a news conference that the decision was made before the presidential election last year.

The conference was organized to help "an opposition candidate" win the election and to pursue democratic reforms, and disbanding it would lay the ground for a new organization that would seek reforms across the board, Kim Kun-tai, chairman of the conference's executive committee, told reporters.

The conference was launched on Sept. 26 last year with the participation of some 140 dissident groups, including Chongyojo (the national teachers' union), and waged a variety of activities for a clean election such as independent ballot counting.

Mission in Zaire To Prepare for Evacuation

SK2901093893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0911 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 29 (YONHAP)—The Foreign Ministry instructed its mission in Zaire Friday to prepare to evacuate 57 South Koreans to escape looters and rioters.

The embassy was told to keep constant contact with French and Belgian missions for joint evacuation if the situation turns more dangerous.

French Ambassador to Zaire Philippe Bernard was shot to death at his home Friday and two Belgians were injured as soldiers went on shooting and looting rampage from economic plight.

Telex lines are severed and the ministry is contacting its mission in Zaire by telephone, officials said.

No South Koreans were reported hurt but a number of businesses were vandalized and robbed, they said.

The 57 South Korean residents include 17 businessmen, six embassy officials and their families. They will flee to Paris first, officials said.

Newly-appointed Ambassador Kim Chong-nok will arrive at the embassy Friday.

Ministry Withdraws Attache From Philippines

SK2901060793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0524 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 29 (YONHAP)—The Finance Ministry has decided to withdraw its attache at the South Korean Embassy in the Philippines and dispatch a director-general level attache to the Korean consulate-general in Hong Kong.

The ministry also decided to lower the grade of its attache to Saudi Arabia from director-general level to division chief level in view of a decline in construction in the country.

As a result, Pak Pong-su, the financial attache in Saudi Arabia, was moved to Hong Kong Friday.

Ministry Again Asks Taiwan Not To Fly Flag

SK2901121693 Seoul YONHAP in English 1156 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 29 (YONHAP)—The Foreign Ministry called in the leaders of the Taiwanese residents community in Korea Friday to urge them to stop hoisting the nationalist Chinese flag outdoors.

Kim Sok-u, Foreign Ministry director-general for Asian affairs, told Liu Guosing and other Taiwanese community officials that Korea cannot tolerate the outdoor use of their flag.

He emphasized that the Korean law prohibits the outdoor use of the national flag of a country with which Korea has no diplomatic ties.

Besides, the director-general said, the use of the nationalist Chinese flag cannot be tolerated even in view of the principle of diplomatic normalization between South Korea and mainland China.

This was the second of such urging made in two days. On Thursday, Yu Hae-chung, a Foreign Ministry deputy director-general, served a similar notice to a group of Taiwanese community officials.

Envoy to U.S. Receives Medal From University

SK2901020593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0005 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] New york, Jan. 28 (YONHAP)—South Korean Ambassador to Washington Hyon Hong-chu receives the Medal of Excellence from Columbia University Law School alumni Friday.

The law school alumni hand out the medal to the school graduates and professors or politicians considered to have made social contributions.

Hyon is the first foreigner to receive the medal.

DPRK Exhibits Export Goods at Fair in PRC

SK2901020393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0054 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Seoul, Jan. 29 (YONHAP)—North Korea, plunged deeper into economic crisis by China's demand for payment in cash, held an export trade fair in China last year, South Korean industry sources said Friday.

North Korean companies signed contracts with firms from China, Japan and South Korea during the five-day exhibition in Dalian, Liaoning Province, in December, the sources said.

It was Pyongyang's first trade fair, although it had taken part in several international exhibitions.

Korea Light Industry Goods Export and Import Corp., Korea Ponghwa General Trading Corp., Korea Rungra 888 Trading Corp. and Korea Unha Trading Corp. were among the eight companies exhibiting their products.

Items on show were agriculture products, clothes, alcoholic drinks and handicrafts of mostly not very good quality, the sources said.

South Korea's Samsung Corp., Hyundai Corp., Daewoo Corp., Lucky-Goldstar International Corp., Sunkyong Corp., and Hyosung Corp. all visited the fair and some struck deals worth millions of U.S. dollars, they said.

Many Chinese and Japanese buyers also signed contracts with North Korean manufacturers.

North Korean companies have become sales agents as overseas trade dried up after China began demanding cash settlement and refusing barter trade, the sources said.

Burma

PRC Foreign Minister To Visit 1-3 Feb

BK2901104693 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 0130 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has announced that Mr. Qian Qichen, member of the State Council and foreign minister of the People's Republic of China, will pay a goodwill visit to the Union of Myanmar [Burma] from 1 to 3 February.

Reportage on Resumption of National Convention

Delegates Arriving

BK2901142893 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Delegates from states and divisions have begun arriving in Yangon [Rangoon] today by air, water, and land to attend the National Convention which will reconvene on 1 February 1993.

Of the delegates who arrived in Yangon today, 31 arrived by air, 47 arrived by water, and 81 by land in vehicles. The delegates from the states and divisions were welcomed by musicians and dancers arranged by township law and order restoration council authorities. The delegates were welcomed at reception camps by members of the Invitation, Reception, and Accommodation Subcommittee and authorities concerned and were accommodated on the Kyaikkasan Grounds.

Rebel Minister on Adjournment

BK3001124893 London BBC in Burmese to Burma 1345 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Dispatch from Bangkok from U Hla U, minister of labor of the National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma, NCGUB, from the "Current Affairs Program"—read by announcer]

[Text] Dear listeners: Although the SLORC [State Law and Order Restoration Council] claimed that the sham National Convention it convened on 9 January enjoyed complete freedom, the statement made by Brigadier General Aung Thein, secretary of the Commission for Convening the National Convention, stressed the need for the delegates to abide by the existing laws, orders, and directives and to give suggestions sincerely and frankly within a framework. Moreover, he also mentioned delegates are not to disturb, obstruct, and resist any action taken by personnel responsible for security at the convention. These words amount to threats and clearly show the SLORC does not trust some delegates who are forthright and stand for truth, and who are representing the people.

As for the convention procedures, the panel of chairmen is to take responsibility to supervise and control the course of the convention. This panel is comprised of 45 chairmen, and a group of nine chairmen are to take turns supervising the convention. This panel plays a pivotal role because topics to be discussed by the delegates have to be first submitted to the panel and written in a report format and the report can be submitted to the convention only with the panel's permission. Free discussions are not permitted.

The appointment of the panel of chairmen is also something to ponder. The delegates are grouped into eight categories and each category is to elect five chairmen. Therefore, there will be 45 chairmen—40 from the eight categories of delegates and five from the Convening Commission. The other dirty trick of the SLORC is that it has allotted five chairmen for themselves and five each from representatives of national races, peasants, workers, intelligentsia and technocrats, and public service personnel. The remaining two categories—representatives of the political parties and elected representatives—have to appoint 10 chairmen. But later it was mentioned that each political party is allotted to appoint only one chairman in order to make it fair and square among the 10 political parties although the representatives of the political parties and elected representatives are supposed to appoint 10 chairmen. It is to prevent the elected representatives from becoming chairmen. If we put all these in a perspective, we can clearly see how fearful the SLORC is of the people's representatives.

Major General Myo Nyunt had said he wanted the delegates to hold the National Convention patiently and to take as much time as they wished. Having said this, it is strange indeed to see the sudden postponement of the National Convention. Moreover, there are reports on the arrest of those who opposed and protested the convention and also that some working delegates did not reach home after the adjournment. It is also heard that Maj. Gen. Myo Nyunt had hurriedly accepted the position of minister of home affairs. It is also heard that some delegates were arrested on charges of organizing a group movement. It is certain that the postponement of the convention is prompted by an unexpected crisis and the convention was adjourned to find ways to deal with it.

Convention Reconvenes 1 Feb

BK0102070293 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 0630 GMT 1 Feb 93

[Text] The National Convention opened at 0900 today in the Conference Hall No. 1—Saya San Hall—in the Kyaikkasan Grounds. Today's session of the National Convention was attended by members of the National Convention Convening Commission [NCCC] led by Major General Myo Nyunt, commission chairman; members of the National Convention Convening Work Committee [NCCWC] led by U Aung Toe, work committee chairman; convention delegates—representatives of political parties, elected representatives, peasants, workers, intelligentsia and technocrats, and public service personnel; invited guests, and local and foreign journalists.

Before the National Convention began, Maj. Gen. Myo Nyunt, minister of religious affairs and Rangoon Military Command commander; members of the NCCC; U Aung Toe, chairman of the NCCWC; and work committee members warmly greeted the delegates.

U Aung Toe, chairman of the NCCWC, presided as chairman of the meeting at the opening session of the National Convention and U Aye Maung acted as secretary of the meeting.

U Aye Maung first announced the validity of today's meeting as 695 out of 700 delegates—constituting 99.19 percent of attendance—attended the meeting. He then declared the meeting open. Next, U Aung Toe, chairman of the NCCWC, explained the program for the National Convention.

The meeting was adjourned at 0918 after the secretary of the meeting explained about the meeting halls where meetings of various groups would be held.

Today's session of the National Convention held at the Saya San was attended by 12 journalists from foreign television and radio stations, new agencies, and newspapers—THE TIMES of London, ABC, REUTER, YOMIURI SHIMBUN, NHK, and THE BOSTON GLOBE.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Ramos Speaks on Sabah, Technology Transfer

BK2901160493 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in Malay 1500 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Philippine President Fidel Ramos said the establishment of an advisory board concerning the Sabah claim is among new steps undertaken by the Philippine Government in an effort to solve the Sabah issue. Such a process will be time-consuming, however, the Philippines will move forward and will not backtrack. He said the improvement of bilateral relations would further enhance Malaysia-Philippines relations and would overcome differences that could cause rifts between the two countries.

The president said several economic activities, which could be carried out through joint ventures by the two countries, could pave the way to a solution to the Sabah issue. He also said the Philippines hopes that it can improve its rubber industry with Malaysia's assistance. The two countries, which have great technological expertise, may embark on a technology exchange program. This includes expertise in production, food processing, and other industrial technologies.

When asked if Manila would request Malaysia to render assistance in improving its 50,000 hectares of rubber plantations in the southern Philippines, the Philippine president said the joint commission established by the two countries would seriously look into the issue and would include, among other things, the issue of technology transfer between the two countries. Total bilateral trade indicates that the balance is in Malaysia's favor due to the Philippines importing Malaysia's petroleum.

Meanwhile, two more local companies today in Kuala Lumpur signed memorandums of understanding with three Manila firms in an effort to take advantage of investment opportunities in the country. The memorandums of understanding were signed between the leader [word indistinct] Company Limited and the (?Reprove) Corporation to seek an opportunity to establish an aluminum rod-processing plant to supply a Philippine cable industry.

Another memorandum of understanding was signed between MMJ Engineering Service Company Limited and two shipping companies from the Philippines—(Balua) Navigation and (Polima) Shipping Corporation—on gold and copper mining joint ventures and other related activities.

Ends Official Visit, Departs

BK3001092493 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0814 GMT 30 Jan 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Jan 30 (OANA/BERNAMA)—Philippine President Fidel Ramos and his wife Amelita Ramos left here Saturday for Thailand after a four-day official visit.

Earlier, Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed called on Ramos at the Carcosa Seri Negara [State Guest House] here to bid him farewell.

Dr. Mahathir spent 30 minutes with the Philippine president.

Ramos and wife later had an audience with Yang Dipertuan Agong (King) Sultan Azlan Shah and the Raja Permaisuri Agong (Queen) Tuanku Bainun at Istana Negara [State Palace] before his departure.

The president's delegation included Foreign Secretary Roberto Rumolo, International Trade and Industry Secretary Rizalino S. Navarro and Agriculture Secretary Roberto Sebastian.

Paper Supports Revocation of Royal Privileges

BK2901124793 Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 22 Jan 93 p 10

[Editorial: "It is Normal to Revoke Excessive Perks"]

[Text] The cabinet has decided to revoke all royal perks and privileges that are not contained or embodied in the federal constitution. The decision covers all perks to which rulers, including their relatives, are not necessarily entitled. Special plate numbers for their vehicles and royal wards in government hospitals are among the perks. If counted, the value of all unwritten perks and privileges, including business opportunities enjoyed by the rulers and their relatives, may have exceeded that of privileges embodied in the constitution. However, the government voluntarily extended the privileges to the rulers to respect their status as a symbol of national unity, stability, and prosperity. This was not legally mandatory but was simply a normal practice. Unfortunately, the rulers wrongly interpreted the privileges as their absolute rights and abused them in several instances. It is even more regrettable that some of the perks and privileges have been enjoyed by other people, especially foreigners.

Accordingly, it is normal and timely that all the perks are being revoked to ensure that they will not be abused. More importantly, this step is expected to ensure that the image of the institution of the Malay rulers will not be tarnished by negative tendencies that often ruin the faith of a human being. It is no exaggeration to say that excessive perks and privileges will make someone forget duties entrusted to him or her. Normally, a person who enjoys such a status will only be preoccupied with two things—power and wealth. If not wisely managed, power and wealth are the number one enemy of human beings. Human beings often commit acts that are against civilization and religion due to power and wealth.

In no way do we consider the cabinet's decision a retaliatory measure against the rulers' refusal to give consent to proposed constitutional amendments to limit their legal immunity. The decision was normal and in line with the rulers' strong adherence to law only and not the spirit of the constitution. [sentence as published] Consequently, they should be accorded only with perks and privileges written in the constitution and are not entitled to additional ones. Moreover, we feel that the current provisions are more than adequate.

It is an undeniable fact that the institution of the rulers should be preserved in the country because they are the symbol of unity, loyalty, prosperity, and justice. But, they are not to be held in high esteem, adored, or worshipped because such action will strongly go against and contravene Islam and the human civilization. Accordingly, it will be normal for Malaysia to have a more complete and comprehensive constitution without giving any exception or privileges to any parties, including the rulers. Although the government is amending the federal constitution, the status of the rulers is guaranteed and they continue to enjoy immunity while performing their official duties and cannot be challenged by any parties in any courts.

The current absolute immunity should be abolished to ensure that they and their relatives will not abuse the status. We need to take precautionary measures because of fears that the privileges may also be abused by other parties, especially "rulers' men" who always seek opportunities to reap personal benefits. It has become public gossip that this group has in several instances acted like royal relatives and arbitrarily enjoyed certain perks. Sometimes, they have even gone so far as to interfere with the affairs of the government and its agencies. The Pahang Forestry Department was once unable to function effectively due to outside interference. This was the sort of danger that could happen if the palace got excessive perks and privileges beyond their control.

Mahathir: Move on Rulers 'Not Motivated by Spite'

BK2901140293 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in English 1300 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed has stressed that the government's decision to follow the letter of the law in the provision of facilities and privileges to the rulers was not movitated by spite. It initiated the move because it could no longer tolerate the habit of the rulers who demanded privileges that were not rightly theirs.

Speaking at a meet-the-people gathering with Kubang Pasu residents at the Dewan Jitra [Jitra Hall] today, Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir explained that the rulers' demands for privileges that were not rightly theirs under the constitution was not meagre but amounted to thousands of millions of ringgit. Although the government did not wish to be spiteful, he admitted that the way that the government went about it was a little harsh. He said that thousands of millions of ringgit spent on rulers' privileges were not their money but that of the people.

He pointed out that it was not that the government did not criticize the conduct of the rulers. It had done so many times but the situation persisted. The prime minister said that the people chose the system of parliamentary democracy and constitutional monarchy when achieving independence because it was thought that the people would be protected. History had proven that the feudal system and absolute monarchy practiced before and during the British administration denied the people a role in the administration and their well-being was not given due attention.

Rulers Urged To Abide by Proclamation

BK2901140693 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in English 1300 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] The move by the Tengku Mahkota [State Regent] of Johor to campaign in Felda [Federal Land Development Authority] schemes in the state to explain the constitutional amendments violates the proclamation of the rulers and should be stopped. Deputy Prime Minister, Encik [Mr.] Ghafar Baba, said the more frequent and deeper the rulers get involved in politics, the more dangerous it is to the institution of monarchy. Speaking to reporters after Friday prayers at Kampung Merlimau

Pasir, Encik Ghafar said the rulers should realize that they cannot get involved in politics.

Addressing the people after the prayers, Encik Ghafar said he fully supported the statement by his royal highness the sultan of Kelantan that there was no immunity for the rulers as there were no mention at all in the constitution that the rulers had immunity. He said the sultan realized this and what he had said was the truth and timely, as Article 81 of the Federal Constitution stipulated that all people were equal before the law and have the right to get the same protection. But unfortunately, if a ruler were to commit an offense, he cannot be tried in any court of law under Article 181(2) of the constitution.

He said as the rulers could not be tried in the ordinary court of law, the setting up of a special court for them as provided for under the amendments to the constitution approved by parliament was appropriate. The fear expressed by some groups that the institution of monarchy was to be abolished through the amendments was baseless. This was because if a ruler was convicted in the special court, it was up to the state concerned to consider whether the ruler should be dethroned.

Encik Ghafar Baba also said the people need no longer use the word "Duli Yang Maha Mulia" when addressing the Malay rulers, particularly the Yang Dipertuan Agong [paramount ruler]. This was because using the word "Maha" and "Mulia" when addressing them meant equalizing them with God. His Majesty the Yang Dipertuan Agong, Sultan Azlan Shah, had consented that the term "Maha" needs no longer be used.

No Decision on Scrapping Royal Assent Provision

BK3101143193 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in English 1300 GMT 31 Jan 93

[Text] The UMNO [United Malays National Organization] Supreme Council recently discussed whether to abolish the constitutional provision allowing for a period of 30 days for his majesty the yang di-pertuan agong [paramount ruler] to give his assent to a bill passed by Parliament. Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed said the matter was only a proposal at this stage and no decision had been reached yet. He was answering questions from reporters before leaving for Kuala Lumpur after a one-day visit in Langkawi.

UMNO Supreme Council member Datuk Raja Ariffin Raja Sulaiman said in Alor Setar yesterday that the council had recently discussed the provision of the 30-day period for the king to assent to a bill. Raja Ariffin, who is deputy minister in the Prime Minister's Department, also said that UMNO may recommend to the government that the provision be scrapped. UMNO will also suggest that the state constitutions be amended to do away with the clauses which say that sultans and yang di-pertua negeri [state governors] must give their assent to enactments passed by the state legislative assemblies. He said at present state governments were powerless to act if the sultans or yang di-pertua negeri refused or delayed in giving their assent. According to Raja Ariffin, such a situation had already occurred once before in Pahang in 1983 when the Regent of Pahang refused to sign an enactment involving finance, causing the state government a lot of problems.

Singapore

Leaders, Indonesian Minister Discuss U.S. Policy

BK3001075893 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 30 Jan 93

[Text] Indonesia and Singapore agreed that the U.S. Administration under the leadership of Bill Clinton will not obstruct its trade relations with countries in the East Asian region. Washington should understand that within a period of 15 to 20 years more, East Asia will become a region which will have a more rapid economic growth when compared to other regions.

Radius Prawiro, the [Indonesian] coordinating minister for the economy, finance, industry, and deveoplment, said this to newsmen in Singapore yesterday afternoon after paying a courtesy call on Senior Minister Lee Kuan Yew and Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong. He also said that the Governments of Indonesia and Singapore held the same opinion for Clinton's economic measures, which does not appear to be beneficial to countries in the Eastern region. This can be seen from a U.S. protection policy that imposes tariffs on import of steel from 19 countries.

Minister Radius Prawiro disclosed that in his meeting with the two Singapore leaders, the governments also agreed that the United States needs to be understanding with the East Asian region as an importer of capital goods. The two countries also reiterated their call on Clinton not to set up policies that will bring about trade barriers between both sides.

Cambodia

KR 15-23 Jan Truce Violations Reported

BK3001095693 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] According to an official military source, the Khmer Rouge [KR] have carried on their military activities, encroaching upon and attacking positions of the Cambodian People's Armed Forces and committing barbarous and cruel crimes against people and plundering their property.

As a matter of fact, since the middle of January, the Khmer Rouge intensified their activities in Kompong Thom, Kompong Cham, Battambang, Siem Reap, Kampot, Kompong Chhnang, Pursat, and Banteay Meanchey Provinces.

The source said that on 14 and from 18 to 23 January, Khmer Rouge soldiers from 616th Division launched six activities in Kompong Thom Province—three shellings into various villages, such as Chamna Leu, Sang Ko, and Pralay villages; two infantry attacks on CPAF; and a raid to rob the people.

The source also revealed that due to the Khmer Rouge's intensified attacks on the above-mentioned villages, 121 families of our innocent people totaling 816 members from four villages in Kompong Thom Province—namely Kdei Cha village, Rumleay commune, Prasat Balang District; Khlaut and Lhong villages in Chamna Leu commune, Thpong District; and Kdei Tnaot village—were compelled to flee from their home to avoid the barbarous and cruel shellings and attacks by the Khmer Rouge.

In Kompong Cham Province, on 17 and 22 January, Khmer Rouge soldiers from 785th Division launched two activities—attacking and plundering people and causing destruction to our authorities. As a matter of fact, at 2400 on the night of 17 January, four fully armed Khmer Rouge soldiers sneaked into the house of (Yim Yien), head of (Phlok) village, Kaoh commune, Ponhea Krek District. They shot and killed (Yim Yien)'s wife and a child and seriously wounded two other children.

In Battambang Province, at 1150 on the afternoon of 15 January, Khmer Rouge soldiers fired barrages of 130 to 150 rounds of 85-mm, DK-75mm, 120-mm mortar shells into CPAF positions at Ta Hen and Ampil Pram Daeum in Bavel District. No details on the losses and casualties were given.

In Banteay Meanchey Province, at 2030 on the night of 17 January, Khmer Rouge soldiers sneaked into Ta Pou commune office and destroyed a number of achievements made by our authorities and people.

Vietnamese Houses in Battambang Said Burned

BK2901014893 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 28 Jan 93

[Excerpt] Sources in Battambang say that on the night of 25 January, people in Battambang burned over 100 Yuon [Vietnamese] houses in the Phsa Thmei sector near the Bek Chan Airfield.

The reports say that near the airfield there are over 500 Vietnamese houses and that over 1,000 Vietnamese soldiers are stationed there. Some of these Yuon troops have the task of attacking and repressing people and the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] and Buddhist Liberal Democratic Parties in Battambang Province. Another part of these forces intervenes when the Yuon and puppets launch offensives against Cambodian national resistance forces on the battlefield around Battambang. [passage omitted]

SNC Condemns Violence Against Citizens, UN

BK2901141993 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 29 Jan 93

["Statement of Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council" dated 28 January—read by announcer]

[Text] Today, after an important working meeting between the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia on the one hand and UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] as well as the representatives of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council on the other, I, Norodom Sihanouk, in my own name and on behalf of the SNC members from the Buddhist Liberal Democratic Party of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front, the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party, and the Cambodian People's Party of the State of Cambodia, have the honor of issuing the following statement:

1. We, the SNC chairman and SNC members from the above three political parties and factions, condemn all manner of violence, such as politically-motivated assassinations, racist crimes, harassment, intimidation, threats, political terrorism and so on, against Cambodians or foreigners in Cambodia. We wish to call on all armed or unarmed Cambodian political parties and factions to constantly exhibit fortitude and exercise emotional and physical restraint in gestures, attitude, actions, and relations with one another.

2. We condemn all actions that adversely affect the dignity, fundamental liberties, rights, security, and bodies of both civilian and military UNTAC staff members. And we wish to call on all the Cambodian political parties and factions to meticulously respect the lives, security, and fundamental freedoms of all the civilian and military UNTAC personnel at all levels.

[Dated] Beijing, 28 January 1993.
[Signed] Norodom Sihanouk.

Khieu Samphan Gives Address at SNC Meeting

BK3101032893 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 30 Jan 93

["Excerpt of the speech made by His Excellency Khieu Samphan, chairman of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea and member of the Supreme National Council, at the meeting of the Supreme National Council in Beijing on 28 January"—read by announcer]

[Text] The Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK], as a signatory of the Paris agreement and a member of the Supreme National Council [SNC], has for more than a year insistently demanded that the Paris agreement be correctly implemented, particularly the key and basic points. Only when the key and basic points are correctly and meticulously implemented can other points be implemented.

To this day, our Cambodian people in and outside the country have noted with concern that the major points of the Paris agreement have not been implemented. The yuon [Vietnamese] continue their war of aggression and occupation in Cambodia; insecurity reigns in the country. As the prince has pointed out, political terrorist activities are on the rise; politically-oriented criminal acts continue to occur. The perpetrators of these criminal acts are none other than the armed forces, secret police, and the murder squads of the Phnom Penh side. They have carried out these criminal activities at the orders of the yuon, who are hiding inside the Phnom Penh regime, to destroy the Cambodian national resistance forces.

Cadres and members of the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party and the Khmer People's National Liberation Front have been victims of these fascist and barbarous acts. For example, a FUNCINPEC cadre had his eyes gouged out by these people in broad daylight in Svay Rieng Province. More recently, in Prey Veng Province, the family of a FUNCINPEC member in Damrel village was killed by six persons; the victims had their heads most savagely split open with axes inside their house. This criminal act took place in broad daylight. Soon afterward, UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] Chief Akashi promised to the prince that UNTAC wiould take measures to prevent these crimes.

Prince Norodom Ranariddh has already pointed out the leaders responsible for these criminal acts to foreign reporters; they are the leaders of the regime the yuon have installed in Phnom Penh. His Excellency [H.E.] Son Sann has also written to Akashi on 21 December 1992 calling for the meticulous implementation of the Paris agreement:

1. UNTAC should verify the withdrawal of the yuon forces from Cambodia; and
2. Control the five ministries.

H.E. Son Sann stressed that closing one's eyes to such a large number of armed and unarmed yuon in Cambodia, and even allowing these yuon to have the right to vote, is not creating a neutral political atmosphere.

The prince head of state and the SNC chairman has pointed out in his successive statements at the end of 1992 that the current situation in Cambodia is very bad; Cambodia is disintegrating and being exterminated as a nation and as a race. The prince further says that in early 1993, Cambodia is losing its soul because it has lost its independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity.

What is the cause of this dark situation? It is because the Paris agreement has not been implemented, particularly the key and basic points, namely:

1. The SNC has not been given the role of a legitimate body and the sole source of power in Cambodia during the transitional period;

2. No control has been carried out to verify that all types of yuon forces are withdrawn from Cambodia; and

3. UNTAC has not effectively controlled and taken over the five ministries.

For over a year, UNTAC has not paid attention to solving the problem at its root cause. It has not implemented the above key and basic points. On the contrary, UNTAC leaders have preoccupied themselves with organizing elections using the pretext of lack of time and budget. They have set aside the role of UNTAC mission, which the Paris agreement has clearly stipulated, that is to restore peace and independence to Cambodia. These people have thought only of organizing elections in a situation in which the yuon aggressor forces are hiding everywhere in Cambodia, both inside the Phnom Penh regime and among over 2 million yuon settlers, and in a situation in which secret police and armed forces of the Phnom Penh puppets are carrying out political terrorist activities at will against the Cambodian people and the Cambodian national resistance forces. Whether one wants it or not, this means legitimizing the yuon aggressors' occupation of Cambodia forever and killing the national resistance forces, including Democratic Kampuchea.

The acts of UNTAC leaders are not in accordance with the tasks as set out by the Paris agreement. These acts do not serve the purpose of establishing peace and stability in Cambodia and Southeast Asia. UNTAC leaders have tried to put the blame on Democratic Kampuchea for the failure of their policy.

However, the Cambodian people and the international community are well aware of all this; UNTAC cannot dupe people. Therefore, UNTAC leaders have to alter their policy in a timely manner and return to implementing the Paris agreement correctly, particularly the key and basic points. [Words indistinct] and independence. Acting this way conforms with the interests of the United Nations and those of regional and world peace and security.

I would like to stress to the SNC meeting that there is no need for the PDK to oppose a liberal democratic regime and to oppose genuinely free and democratic elections. On the contrary, the PDK has again and again demanded that elections be held under conditions of security and a neutral political atmosphere so that these elections can proceed in a genuinely democratic manner.

The Cambodian people are free to choose a national assembly which truly represents the Cambodian nation and people, and a faithful government which serves the interests of the nation and people, and serves the cause of restoring peace and independence to Cambodia and of national reconciliation.

NADK Spokesman Denies Defection of Soldier

BK3001022093 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 29 Jan 93

["Denial by the Spokesman of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [NADK] Concerning the Slanderous Propaganda that a Soldier of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea Is on Trial, Accused of Killing Vietnamese Nationals at the End of December 1992;"—read by announcer]

[Text] I. Some foreign radios recently reported that a former Khmer Rouge soldier defected in early January 1993 and surrendered to the Phnom Penh forces. These foreign radios further reported that the Phnom Penh side and UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] have interviewed this defector and that the latter swore that he took part in the killing of 15 yuon [Vietnamese] nationals in Kompong Chhnang Province on 27 December 1992. The radios further reported that this defector is therefore guilty and that the tribunal of the Phnom Penh side and UNTAC will try this person.

II. The spokesman of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [NADK] has no need to get involved in such gross deceitful propaganda. However, to clarify the truth of the matter to local and foreign opinions, we would like to fully reject this bad propaganda and would like to make the following observations:

A. A brief examination of the above reports carried by some foreign radios clearly reveal that it was a theatrical farce staged to dupe others. The producer of this farce, however, is still very green because it was too much of a made-up story allowing people to realize that it was a sudden one; for example the point that a NADK soldier defected from the NADK to the Phnom Penh side and that this person was interviewed, and then admitted and swore that he took part in the killing of yuon nationals in Kompong Chhnang Province. The tribunal to try this case is that of the yuon's puppets with the participation of UNTAC; and so on.

The story is such a gross one that even a toddler will not believe this kind of deceitful farce.

B. It can be asked: What is the issue of the yuon? People know, understand, and are angry with the old military aggression of the yuon and the new yuon expansionist aggression through millions of persons to annex Cambodian territory and exterminate the Cambodian race. It is the yuon who are aggressors and occupiers in Cambodia. It is the yuon who are the provocators in the killing of the Cambodian nation and people over the past 13-14 years. How many hundreds of thousands and how many millions of Cambodians have died or have been maimed? How many resources of the Cambodian nation and people have been ruined? How strong and burning is the anger of the Cambodian nation and people with old and new yuon aggressor forces? How come foreign radios and UNTAC leaders are not concerned with old and new yuon expansionist forces occupying and annexing the Cambodian territory and exterminating the Cambodian race? Why have they instead turned to find fault with the Cambodian nation and people and pester Democratic Kampuchea [DK]?

This also shows whether UNTAC leaders have come to assist Cambodia to have peace and prevent foreign forces—that is the yuon aggressors—from remaining in Cambodia or whether they have come to collaborate in every way with the yuon aggressors to kill the Cambodian nation and people? People have noticed that UNTAC leaders and a number of foreign propagandists have made efforts to slander DK and to find all kinds of pretexts to kill the Cambodian nation and people. UNTAC leaders and their associates, however, have never said a word about hundreds of thousands of yuon aggressor troops and millions of yuon nationals annexing Cambodia and killing the Cambodian people every day and every hour.

People ask this question: Is this democracy and freedom to slander others, to defend the aggressors, and to kill the Cambodian nation and people? Is this human rights? Human rights to collude with the yuon aggressers to kill the Cambodian nation and people? Are these the people who boast that they want peace for Cambodia and for this region? They say they want peace, but they collude with the yuon aggressors to let old and new yuon occupy Cambodia, promulgate laws to protect the yuon aggressors, and allow the yuon to have all kinds of rights, even the right to vote. Is this kind of peace genuine or is it peace to fuel the war in Cambodia?

[Dated] 29 January 1993

[Signed] NADK Spokesman

Government Attempt To Capture Pailin Denied

BK0102101293 Hong Kong AFP in English 1002 GMT 1 Feb 93

[Text] Phnom Penh, Feb 1 (AFP)—The Phnom Penh government denied Monday that it was attempting to capture Khmer Rouge guerrilla headquarters at Pailin, despite United Nations reports that troops had launched an offensive in that direction. But a senior government official who could not be identified said the offensive was a response to the inability of U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) to keep the Khmer Rouge in check.

"We have to fight them because we don't trust UNTAC," he said. "Even our people don't trust UNTAC anymore either. UNTAC is only prepared to run away."

Government military spokesman General Phan Thay said Phnom Penh troops had killed 51 Khmer Rouge guerrillas, wounded 89 and captured two in the offensive begun January 25. He declined to give casualty figures for the government side.

"We are just using this offensive to push the Khmer Rouge back into their territory," the general told AFP.

UNTAC said the fighting had intensified over the last 72 hours, but gave no figures of troops involved, casualties or displaced villagers. However, the scale of the offensive launched in five provinces spanning the country exceeded the government's right to self defense, UNTAC officials said.

"The prime minister (Hun Sen) told his troops that we should not and must not launch the offensive to capture Pailin, but Hun Sen said we can or should only push the Khmer Rouge back into their zone," he said.

U.N. peacekeepers said the Phnom Penh government offensive included a 10-kilometer (six mile) push towards the Khmer Rouge gem-mining town.

"If we wanted to capture Pailin, we could do it in two to five days," the general responded, emphasizing that the government only wanted to push the Khmer Rouge back into their zone.

Chea Sim Speaks at Assembly's Closing Session

BK3001120193 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Speech by Chea Sim, chairman of both the Cambodian People's Party and the National Assembly, at the closing of the first National Assembly's 24th session in Phnom Penh on 29 January—recorded]

[Text] Beloved Prince, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen: Through active work over the past five days the 24th ordinary session of our First National Assembly achieved much covering every aspect of our national community. It also took various necessary measures which are important for the future. This fine result reflects the spirit of high responsibility of our National Assembly members for the destiny and future of our people and beloved motherland in the new, historic, and most important stage of the struggle to implement the Paris peace agreement. It is a noble struggle aimed at ending violations and the impasse created by warmongering forces and violent activities. It is aimed at opening a new era of peace, democracy, and national development.

Like the previous sessions, socioeconomic issues are the main preoccupations of our Assembly. First of all, our Assembly reviewed the results achieved in 1992; debated every angle and aspect of the implementation of tasks in every field; and suggested a number of initiatives to the Council of Ministers to assist in leading and administering the state, the economy, society, and the national community in the current and very difficult and complicated circumstances.

Our Assembly was unanimous in highly appreciating the vigorous efforts of our State of Cambodia [SOC] Government to shoulder the economic and financial situation of the country with a responsible spirit and to strive to fulfill the ever increasing requests to develop the country. It is obvious that the government's burden at present is immense and most complicated. We must ensure stability in the people's daily life, security, and social order during the transitional period, which is being seriously threatened and constantly hindered by the Khmer Rouge side. The country is in a situation in which the national economy has lost its balance with limited collection of state income, while expenditures are rising manyfold.

Our Assembly would like to express great gratitude to our officials, authorities, employees, Army, police, and people nationwide for their understanding of the common difficulty of the country and nation at present and their patience in actively sharing this with the highest patriotic spirit. They have also uncovered and exposed maneuvers to incite and foment unrest and social instability carried out by warmongering forces; violent activities; and criminal and irresponsible acts of a number of political parties that want to politically exploit the negative phenomenon in our society. Continued assistance and support of the people and the masses to our SOC Government in the phase to develop the country in every field have resulted in brilliant feats and many new accomplishments everywhere. This is most praiseworthy.

In this sense, the entire Assembly, representing the Cambodian people nationwide, holds that warmongering forces and violent activities, with the Khmer Rouge as the core, have constantly carried out perfidious activities in an attempt to create confusion and unrest in our national community and plunge it deeply into a spreading and endless bloody war during this transitional period. Although they know that the SOC controls a large area of territory and a lot of people—and that this is a force necessary for ensuring stability in order to cooperate with the UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] to ensure stability, security, and social order, along with developing the national community during this transitional period—and realize that this is in accordance with the agreement, these forces continue to try to create political incidents and instability and then put the blame on the SOC. This is also an attempt to downgrade the role of the existing authority. This clearly shows that these people are after power and personal interests only and not the interests of the nation and the people.

Our Assembly still holds that efforts to continue developing the national community cannot be suspended or delayed. On the contrary, it is even more necessary to push these efforts more vigorously in order to ensure stability in general, which relies chiefly on economic stability to serve the necessary needs of the people's daily life.

The assistance from the international community in particular to the Cambodian people in these difficult circumstances is most precious. This aid should be distributed in a timely manner and used to truly benefit the Cambodian people. The training of Cambodian specialists and the process of rebuilding national infrastructures have been immediately implemented because this is the determining factor in developing Cambodian society in every field in the future.

Our Assembly stressed the importance of the market economic policy and our SOC's liberalization policy, which have been creating conditions and new basic benefits favorable to the rapid development of the national community and the improvement of our people. Further efforts to promote investment from every source should continue and it is necessary to point these efforts toward the direction of basic sectors, which are the foundation of national economy—namely, agriculture and industry—in order to effect simultaneous changes and development among the service, commerce, banking, and tourism industries in rural and urban areas.

Furthermore, our Assembly drew the attention and vigilance of the government to the current negative factors. It is imperative to closely follow them and take timely corrective measures to ensure that the process to perfect the market economy proceed smoothly and be of real benefit to ensure stability in every sector. Our Assembly pointed out the need to improve financial and banking networks and related regulations, and regulations related to trade, import, export, tax, and investment, in order to respond to the immediate needs to increase the state budget and consolidate savings. Our Assembly also paid attention to developing tourism and creating duty-free zones, which are important sources of income for the national economy.

Concerning social affairs and matters related to public health, education, culture, information, communications, transport, and posts—which are important sectors directly serving the people's needs—our Assembly pointed out to the government the need to increase and improve the quality and efficiency of the work. In particular, suggestions were made to pay attention to rural and remote areas which in general still lag behind populated areas. To increase the government's influence in administering and managing the economy and finance, and to ensure that social services are provided, our Assembly at this session adopted a number of new laws, chiefly the law on circulation of currencies and the repression of fake currencies, the law on retirement pensions, and the pension for loss of ability to work for the people's police. Our Assembly also adopted decisions on the target of the state plan and the target of financial and budgetary tasks for 1993.

Concerning the protection of social legitimacy, our Assembly highly appreciated all levels of institutions for their efforts to provide justice to all types of complaints of the people aimed at solving anarchy concerning land and home ownership in violation of state laws and other people's ownership. Our state authority in particular has thwarted the ambitions of some individuals and groups that exploited the current ownership issue and the race issue in order to incite and foment social instability, and who attempted to create a dangerous game which would drag society and the nation into a war over ownership and a burst of racial revenge with an endless flow of blood.

Once again, our Assembly appeals to our people and masses nationwide to try to clearly understand these issues and avoid being taken in by demagogic maneuvers of some individuals or groups, who are individualists, conservatives, and ultranationalists; who do not consider the interests of the nation and the people as supreme; and who try to use these issues in an unrealistic manner to serve only emotions and win votes.

With the aim of further increasing responsibility in the implementation of the peace agreement during the transitional period, strengthening the independence of the judiciary, expanding and consolidating the power of tribunals, and ensuring the universal rights of the people, our Assembly session this time agreed to amend a number of articles in the Constitution and adopted four laws relating to the judiciary, particularly the law on the penal code and legal procedure, the law on court expenses, the law on the establishment and activities of courts in the SOC, and the law on property sharing.

Our Assembly welcomed the efforts of UNTAC to explain to the masses the importance of respect for human rights, the use of democratic rights and freedom, the upholding of honor and courtesy, and the legitimate interests of each citizen, as well as the SOC's past efforts.

Our Assembly expressed the view that violent activities, political assassinations, and other criminal acts taking place in this transitional period stem from the instigation and provocations of the Khmer Rouge, who are the core force opposing implementation of the peace agreement and the general elections in Cambodia. It is the Khmer Rouge agents who have used these dark maneuvers to get various political parties to confront one another and then put the blame on the SOC, the host.

Our Assembly expressed joy over the development of morale and the firm conscience of our masses and people, who have wisely passed judgment and adhered to the correct path based on the truth and who are always vigilant against the danger of the return of the genocidal Pol Pot regime, which is still haunting and threatening our people.

As part of the liberalization and multiparty policy in accordance with democracy, our masses and people want to be fully free and have full freedom in their decisions and selections. They do not want to fall into the political trap of any individuals or parties. The masses and people will certainly be rightly and appropriately courageous in exposing the deceitful maneuvers of some individuals and parties that exploit the sincerity and honesty of the masses and people and use the label of political parties to cheat the people through demagogic means and exploit the people's sympathy.

Apart from the above major issues, our Assembly also debated the current implementation of the Paris agreement. In general, our Assembly expressed continued high appreciation for the constant efforts of the international community for its active contribution in steering the process to implement the agreement away from an impasse and to really move the process forward toward the final goal.

At the same time, our Assembly highly appreciated the efforts of His Excellency [H.E.] Yasushi Akashi, special representative of H.E. the UN Secretary General, and all UNTAC forces operating in Cambodia, which are striving to carry out their tasks and making sacrifices to serve the cause of peace in Cambodia, although these efforts have not yet achieved the desired goal.

Our Assembly would like to appraise with the highest respect His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, father of the nation, head of state and SNC chairman, and father of national reconciliation, for his physical efforts and astuteness in reconciling the nation and bringing peace and security to our motherland and people.

Our Assembly also was of the view that the impasse hindering implementation of the second phase of the peace agreement results from the subversion of the Khmer Rouge, who rely on violence and brutal acts to achieve their ambitions and long-term strategy, although these activities are contrary to the supreme interests of the Cambodian people and the international community. These are outdated activities not appropriate to the tendency of the era. As always, the Khmer Rouge continue to be intransigent and tricky. They have signed the peace agreement only to destroy it. To cover up brutal and large-scale violations, which have very serious consequences for the peace agreement, and with a desire to deflect the international community's pressure, they have set conditions contravening the agreement and which are aimed at opposing the SOC and UNTAC in order to weaken the SOC and bog down and defeat UNTAC operations in Cambodia while they fully gain from the implementation of the agreement through military activities to expand controlled areas and forcibly round up people, and through their legitimate presence within the SNC. Through this, the Khmer Rouge hope to gradually return to power in Cambodia.

The existing state authorities have always cooperated with UNTAC in building a neutral political atmosphere during the transitional period. This is necessary for moving toward free and fair elections. However, the Khmer Rouge have instead turned to carrying out political terrorist activities and launching military attacks to destroy the peace process. Furthermore, they want to press for control by the SOC only, the party which is implementing the agreement, while they themselves have never worked to implement it and have refused UNTAC control to the point of firing on aircraft and vehicles; abducting and threatening people and hindering the poll registration process; shelling checkpoints; killing UNTAC poll registration staff; and hindering UNTAC control in the zones under their control.

Therefore, it is strange that the Khmer Rouge and their allies shout about the lack of a neutral atmosphere at present because they themselves have never contributed anything to building this atmosphere. Furthermore, they are even destroying necessary mechanisms which ensure a neutral political atmosphere. In order to have a genuine neutral political atmosphere, the Khmer Rouge should open their zones to UNTAC control and checks. They should end military activities and correctly implement the peace agreement; end activities to hinder the poll registration; and grant full freedom to people in their zones to take part in the coming general elections without pressure or intimidation.

Concerning the presence of foreign forces in Cambodia, the SOC has never banned or hindered UNTAC control. UNTAC can check any time and anywhere. All suspicions should be definitively cleared and ended. If the Khmer Rouge or other parties have concrete evidence, they can report it to UNTAC any time for an immediate check.

On the presence of foreign nationals in Cambodia, particularly the presence of Vietnamese nationals in Cambodia, our Assembly is of the view that this issue should be solved wisely based on state and international laws. This cannot be solved through pressure and intimidation or through a policy of revenge and the use of violence.

In all countries worldwide there are foreign immigrants. There is no country in the world with only one ethnic group, particularly where there are neighboring countries with different ethnic groups, such as Cambodia, Vietnam, and Thailand. This is inevitable due to historic, geographic, and economic reasons. The fear that the presence of foreign nationals in Cambodia would affect the coming elections is not at all reasonable because UNTAC and representatives of all political parties were present at all registration and election offices; cheating is not possible.

The exploitation by the Khmer Rouge and a number of political parties of these issues is just a political pretext to fuel racial hatred and plunge society and the nation into anarchy. Causing a split among the international community and shedding blood through the massacre and extermination of each race does not build an atmosphere of peace and security. On the contrary, this increases racial extermination in Cambodia, which can only bring a great disaster. The major and pressing issue for the Cambodian nation in the immediate future is peace and security.

As for the fear that neighboring countries would annex Cambodia as a colony, this is an unrealistic issue because implementation of the peace agreement is a major factor (?supported) by the United Nations and the international community to protect Cambodia's independence, territorial integrity, and sovereignty. It is refusal to abide by the peace agreement that will cause the loss of territorial integrity and national sovereignty.

At present, the sovereignty and territorial integrity of each state has been guaranteed by international laws. All territorial conflicts can be solved through peaceful means. The new government can solve all these issues peacefully based on the principles of international law and peaceful coexistence. Therefore, our Assembly appeals to the masses and people and (?youths) nationwide to further increase their vigilance and avoid being taken in by instigative maneuvers of some individuals and a number of political parties who use the issues of racism, ultranationalism, and territorial integrity to incite violence and create confusion, all of which are detrimental to the peace process in our beloved country.

As for the Khmer Rouge's demand for more power to be granted to the SNC, this is in fact a political ploy to destroy implementation of the peace agreement because the Khmer Rouge do know that this is against the peace agreement. The immediate issue is that if the Khmer Rouge really want to increase the power of the SNC, they should listen to the SNC, UNTAC, and the United Nations, and take part in SNC meetings with a genuinely constructive stance. The current activities of the Khmer Rouge reflect the truth that the Khmer Rouge are themselves destroying the work of the SNC and reducing the power and efficiency of the SNC.

As always, Khmer Rouge representatives have never attended SNC meetings with a really constructive stance. On all issues they always use their right to veto and sometimes use the trick of avoiding the issues with the sole aim of creating an impasse within the SNC and this body's various branches. Therefore, it is the Khmer Rouge's own doing that they are destroying what they are demanding.

The SNC already has sufficient power—namely, the power stated in the peace agreement. The power the SNC lacks is the power to punish and discard any parties that do not implement the peace agreement or that destroy the SNC work. The impasse in implementation of the peace agreement and the current situation reflect the true nature and absolute and resolute conflict between peace-loving forces and warmongering forces and violence.

While the Cambodian people, the international community, the United Nations, and UNTAC are working together toward peace, the Khmer Rouge have instead created a new atmosphere to return to war. They are making the parties that sincerely implement the agreement into victims. In the interest of peace and national reconciliation in Cambodia, the Khmer Rouge's irresponsible, abusive, and insolent activities should be quickly terminated.

Our Assembly holds that it is a waste of valuable time to try and coax the Khmer Rouge through diplomatic means. For the Khmer Rouge, the important measure to end their intransigence is using pressure and sanctions to isolate them by any means, including an ultimatum setting 31 January 1993 as the deadline to cut off military, economic, and financial lifelines to force them to return to the agreement. Only this way can the Cambodian people be saved from the Khmer Rouge's [words indistinct] and avoid the failure of the United Nations' big and historic mission in Cambodia.

Furthermore, in the event that there is an impasse with a serious threat from the Khmer Rouge to the peace agreement and implementing a neutral policy during the transitional period, it is most appropriate that UNTAC's mandate be altered to conform to the real situation in each stage and to respond to the dangerous activities of the Khmer Rouge. In the final and most serious case in which the Khmer Rouge still refuse to come back, it is most appropriate and highly responsible that the United Nations and the cochairmen of the Paris conference take measures to discard the Khmer Rouge from the Cambodian peace process.

Furthermore, all signatories of the peace agreement, particularly Cambodia's neighbors, should meticulously and responsibly fulfill their obligation to serve the common interest of peace, stability, and progress in the region. In particular, people should cooperate in systematically using their influence to pressure those parties that refuse to implement the agreement in order to create a new impetus favorable to the consolidation of the peace agreement's implementation.

The SOC would like to reaffirm that it never wants to discard the Khmer Rouge from the peace agreement. It is the Khmer Rouge themselves that continue to be intransigent and who have placed themselves outside the agreement. The historic task of all parties at this time is to observe a correct, meticulous, equal, simultaneous, and balanced implementation of the agreement, and to abide by the agenda and schedule. This is not the time for bargaining and setting new conditions to hinder implementation of the agreement.

As representatives of the Cambodian people, our Assembly through this 24th ordinary session would like to appeal again to the Khmer Rouge to immediately return to the right path—that is, the path to peace and national reconciliation on the basis of considering the interests of the nation and people to be supreme. This is the most appropriate time for the Khmer Rouge to show good conduct and their final decision to implement the peace agreement in order to end the war that has dragged on for over two decades and to work together to rebuild the country and nation toward glory under the royal leadership of our outstanding leader.

In the tortuous development of the situation in the future, our Assembly has unanimously entrusted the government with the right to take measures that are necessary and appropriate according to the situation and activities of the Khmer Rouge, with great attention being paid to ensuring security and order everywhere and exercising self-defense rights in the event of continued Khmer Rouge violations, and to opposing destruction of the general elections and the poisoning of the neutral political atmosphere during the transitional period.

Beloved Prince, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen: In the cause of peace and national reconciliation, our SOC will do all it can to continue upholding implementation of the Paris peace agreement. Our government will continue to solve the economic and financial problems of our country and will continue to responsibly solve our national community's daily life. All levels of our existing state authorities will continue to cooperate with UNTAC to ensure security, public order, safety, and a peaceful life for our people and to defend the process toward the general elections in accordance with the peace agreement.

To assist the government in shouldering these heavy tasks, our Assembly would like to take this fine opportunity to appeal to our masses and people nationwide to continue to firmly unite and actively assist and support the government's efforts in order to overcome immediate difficulties in the process toward peace, which is the sacred and final goal. Please continue to endure the current common hardship of the nation, which results from the continued destructive activities of the Khmer Rouge. This is the last stage of the struggle and final endurance before reaching a new era of genuine peace, security, and progress.

To enable the general elections to take place and to protect rights, freedom, democracy, and respect for human rights in our country, compatriots should heighten vigilance and not be taken in by the Khmer Rouge propaganda. All of us should actively take part in defending our respective village, commune, district, and privince, and defend the poll registration process and the entire election process.

Our masses and people should be more active in agricultural production work and all types of services to improve the daily life; provide products to sustain the national community; and contribute to rebuilding the country. All of us should contribute to implementing the resolutions of the UN Security Council concerning sanctions against the Khmer Rouge. This means cutting off supply lines to the Khmer Rouge and absolutely not selling medicine, gasoline, and other equipment to this group. We should be active in propaganda to win over Khmer Rouge soldiers to join the great national family.

In particular, from now to the general election there will be rumors, bad propaganda, and subversive activities. These are political maneuvers and tactics to win votes of various political parties; this also includes the Khmer Rouge's destructive ploys. Therefore, our masses and people, particularly our youths, should carefully think and avoid making mistake and becoming a political stepping stone for individuals or parties, because this would lead to the loss of rights, freedom, and personal freedom. This would also badly affect society and the nation.

The use of rights, freedom, and democracy, and respect for human rights that are not in accordance with state laws and not in conformity with reason will create a most dangerous and anarchic situation. In the transitional period, a number of politicians and extremist political parties will use the labels of democracy, human rights, and ultranationalism to poison the election atmosphere. For power and votes, a number of unscrupulous persons will use all types of dirty maneuvers and means to falsify the truth and incite and fuel anger and revenge in society. This could lead to confusion and social unrest affecting even the national soul and our fine ethics, culture, and traditions. This would even destroy our achievements.

In particular, our masses and people should continue to contribute to unmasking criminals, saboteurs, and subverters who attempt to create social unrest in every sector through armed banditry and robbery, terrorism, all kinds of vices, and instigation to break religious unity, fuel racial revenge, and create conflicts among various ethnic groups who are living harmoniously in our society and nation.

Everyone should take part in implementing the peace agreement and correctly abide by the election laws adopted by the SNC. For those of our compatriots who have already been repatriated, they should assiduously work to rebuild a new life and good relations with the local people in order to quickly ensure stability in their lives and create a cordial living atmosphere among compatriots in our great national family.

Our Assembly would also like to take this opportunity to appeal to all political parties, politicians, and activists in each party to heighten the spirit of patriotism and love for the people, and to take part in the political struggle with dignity in accordance with genuine democracy. Please do not do things that poison the social atmosphere and affect the process to build a neutral political environment in the transitional period. Do not show gestures that would support and encourage the Khmer Rouge, who are ruining implementation of the peace agreement.

Contributions to building and maintaining a neutral political atmosphere during the transitional period are not the sole obligation of the Cambodian People's Party and the SOC. This is the common task of common responsibility of all sides and parties and of the entire

Cambodian people, without any exception and discrimination. A neutral political atmosphere would really benefit our national community in the practice of democracy.

Everyone should make appropriate contributions to creating and maintaining this environment, which requires first of all the absence of gunfire, violence, grudges, lawlessness, bad propaganda, and racism. This should be based on the spirit of firm Cambodian national unity, the spirit of genuine national reconciliation, and the spirit of sincerely abiding by the peace agreement. Pluralism of political views does not mean that hereditary enemies must fight to eliminate one another. In other words, we remain Cambodians in the same great national family with the common task of rebuilding the country and nation toward progress and prosperity.

In the complex circumstances of the present time, all political parties should be uniting and embarking upon a common task to solve the impasse (?through) pressure on the Khmer Rouge to most quickly bring peace and security to the motherland. Disputes among various parties benefit only the Khmer Rouge.

The SOC always welcomes compatriots and former Cambodian personalities who want to return home, and considers this a major contribution to reconciling the nation and rebuilding the country and nation. The National Assembly warmly welcomes His Excellency [H.E.] Keat Chhon and H.E. Thao Pengleat and other personalities who have contributed to building the country with the SOC Government. The National Assembly considers this a valuable contribution to Cambodia's future. The National Assembly also congratulates H.E. Suy Sem, who has been appointed minister of labor and welfare, to replace the late Do Sohan.

For those compatriots still among the Khmer Rouge ranks who are carrying out activities to shed the blood of their fellow contrymen and destroy the property of the people and the nation in various places, they should wake up and rethink their own interests and those of the country and nation. They should immediately stop activities to oppose the peace agreement; return to the national family and be reunited with families and relatives; rebuild new peaceful lives; and take part in the general elections, which is their sacred right of self-determination.

Choosing the path to extend the war is not a means to ending the war. Compatriots should clearly realize that if the Khmer Rouge won through military or other means, a new genocide would take place in Cambodia because the Khmer Rouge have no ways and means to democratically lead the country. They are not a patriotic or national liberation group; they remain the Khmer Rouge, who are the source of danger for Cambodian people in the past, present, and future.

Our Assembly expresses the firm belief that through the faithful and simultaneous implementation of the Paris peace agreement, with great national unity and with the assistance of the international community, our Cambodia will certainly have peace and security in a new independent, peaceful, permanently neutral, and nonaligned Cambodia with appropriate honor and prestige in the region and the world.

With joy and happiness over the fine results of our 24th National Assembly session, and in the 1993 universal new year, I would like to take this opportunity to convey best wishes to the prince father and the royal consort, and to members of our National Assembly, prince, excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, and all compatriots. May you enjoy the five Buddhist blessings.

I declare the 24th ordinary session of our first National Assembly closed. Thank you. [applause]

'Success' of Assembly Session Praised

BK3101110393 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 29 Jan 93

[PRACHEACHON commentary: "For the Destiny and Future of Our Beloved People and Motherland"; date not given]

[Text] The 24th plenary session of the first National Assembly of the State of Cambodia [SOC], which began on 25 January, ended on 29 January with brilliant success.

At this session, National Assembly members, who represent the true voice and will of the people from 20 constituencies, dedicated all of their clear wisdom with a lofty sense of responsibility to the destiny and future of our beloved people and motherland, which is moving on a most important historic stage of struggle to implement the Paris peace agreement.

After reviewing the achievements in socioeconomic development in 1992 and thoroughly examining and analyzing the strong and weak points in all aspects and the implementation of all tasks, our Assembly highly valued the great efforts made by the SOC Government to improve the country's economic and financial situation with a high sense of responsibility. The Assembly also proposed a number of views and new initiatives to the Council of Ministers and approved a number of new laws to enable the Council of Ministers to enhance its efficiency to lead and control the state, national economy, and society in the current most difficult and complex circumstances.

The Assembly also underlined the significance of our state's policy of market economy and openness, which has enhanced and is bringing to fruition new potential favorable to the rapid progress of our efforts to develop national society and improve our people's livelihood.

At the same time, the Assembly examined implementation of the Paris peace agreement. It highly valued the successive efforts made by the international community in contributing to implementation of the agreement. It also highly appraised the efforts of His Excellency Yasushi Akashi, special representative of the UN secretary general, and all UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] forces which are carrying out their mission for the cause of peace in Cambodia.

The entire Assembly hailed, with high respect, His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, father of the nation, chairman of the Supreme National Council, and father of national reconciliation for dedicating his physical strength and clear-sighted wisdom to achieving national reconciliation and bringing peace and happiness to our motherland and people.

Most importantly, the Assembly found that the deadlock barring implementation of the second phase of the peace agreement was caused by the sabotage activities of the Khmer Rouge, who have resorted to violence and cruel acts just to realize their long-term strategy.

The Assembly pointed out that the Khmer Rouge and their allies have continued to clamor about the lack of a neutral political atmosphere despite the fact that they themselves have not helped build a neutral atmosphere, but have tried hard to destroy it.

A neutral political atmosphere will really prevail only after the Khmer Rouge open their zone for UNTAC forces to conduct supervision, end their military activities, correctly implement the peace agreement, stop trying to obstruct the poll registration, and give the people in their zone the full right to take part in the upcoming general elections without any pressure or intimidation.

Concerning the Khmer Rouge's intransigence in refusing to join in implementation of the agreement, the Assembly was of the opinion that it is a waste of precious time and useless to use diplomatic means to woo the Khmer Rouge into softening their stand.

In case of a deadlock and the Khmer Rouge posing a serious threat to implementation of the peace agreement and a neutral political atmosphere in the transitional period, it is most imperative to amend UNTAC's mandate appropriately in line with the real situation in each stage. In the worst case scenario—that is, when the Khmer Rouge refuse to turn back—it is most imperative and is the lofty responsibility of the United Nations and the co-chairmen of the Paris conference to take measures to banish the Khmer Rouge from the Cambodian peace process.

The Assembly also reiterated that the SOC has never had any desire to exclude the Khmer Rouge from the agreement. It is the Khmer Rouge themselves who have stubbornly placed themselves outside the framework of the agreement.

Concerning the possible twists and turns of the future situation, the Assembly unanimously authorized the government to seek necessary measures suitable with the Khmer Rouge's behavior. These measures include a call for all sectors to pay attention to maintaining social order and public security in all areas, use of the right to self-defense in case of continued violations by the Khmer Rouge, and the efforts to thwart any attempt to destroy the general elections and contaminate the neutral political atmosphere in the transitional period.

This brilliant outcome of the 24th session of the first National Assembly is a great encouragement and a strong energizer for the officials and authorities at all levels, the armed forces, and people throughout the country to successfully fulfill their tasks. However, they should realize that since the transitional period is drawing near to the elections, the situation will change rapidly and might become even more complicated.

For the cause of peace and national reconciliation, our SOC will do its best to further promote implementation of the Paris peace agreement. Our government will strive to resolve the difficulties in economic and financial fields, to ensure public order, security, and the peaceful life of the people, and to safeguard the process toward the general elections to be held in line with the peace agreement. For this reason, all officials, authorities, employees, armed forces, and people throughout the country should continue to consolidate their unity and jointly help the government in its efforts to surmount all current difficulties. Most importantly, it is imperative to enhance vigilance so as to ourselves avoid falling into the Khmer Rouge's game. We should jointly strive to enhance our political maturity, continue to strictly implement the Paris peace agreement, and strive to improve the socioeconomic situation, security, and public order for the destiny and future of our beloved people and motherland.

Indonesia

Paper Accuses U.S. of 'Double Standard' on Iraq

BK3001093893 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 30 Jan 93

[From the Press Review]

[Text] PELITA says the U.S.-led allied forces attack against Iraq recently has drawn strong criticism from international community. Apparently, the United States and its allies are adopting a double standard on Iraq as evidenced by the U.S. excuse that the attack was launched because Iraq had violated UN resolutions. However, Israel and Serbia have clearly violated UN resolutions but attacks have not been launched against them.

According to this daily, the criticism is mainly aimed at the U.S. because if the U.S. wants to do anything, this superpower will do what it pleases, including influencing the minds of the UN Security Council members. Thus, under such a situation, the current issue is centered on whether or not the United States is sincere in implementing the UN Security Council resolutions, either through diplomatic channels or other means.

Reportage on Trial of Fretilin Leader

Xanana May Face Death Penalty

BK2901114893 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0940 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Dili, E. Timor, Jan 29 (OANA/ANTARA)—Leader of the East Timor Fretilin [Revolutionary Front for an Independent East Timor] Security Disturbing Movement (GPK) Jose Alexandre Xanana Gusmao may face two criminal charges, Prosecutor Samen Puba said here Friday. The first charge will be activities against the government, while the second [is] illegal possesion of fire arms, said Purba, head of the Dili Prosecution Office. He acknowledged that a charge on illegal possesion of fire arms carries a maximum sentence of death penalty. The first charge may bring him 15 years to life imprisonment, the prosecutor said.

He said Xanana's prosecution dossier will be no less than 40 pages thick and had been submitted to the Dili Court last Jan 25.

Thirty witnesses will be prepared by the Dili Prosecution Office to testify against Xanana, he said adding that, however, he was not certain whether each and every one of them would be asked to appear before the panel of judges.

Purba acknowledged that the trial might drag on because Xanana claimed that he could communicate in Portuguese only.

In anticipation of such a problem, we are ready with our team of interpreters, Purba said, adding that the presence of interpreters, however, also depended on the policy of the panel of judges.

AI Request To Attend Trial Denied

BK3101075093 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0700 GMT 31 Jan 93

[Excerpt] East Timor Governor Abilio Jose Osorio Soares has said that Amnesty International's [AI] request to attend the trial of Xanana Gusmao, the leader of the East Timor GPK [Security Disturbance Movement], as an observer goes too far. Speaking to newsmen in East Timor, Governor Abilio Soares has said that Amnesty International should take care of other problems because Indonesia is capabale of settling by itself the problem of Xanana Gusmao. He added that the Xanana Gusmao issue is not an international affair. It is strictly Indonesia's internal affair.

According to the governor, Xanana Gusmao's activities against the government, which led him to be prosecuted, proved that Indonesia is giving him fair and humitarian treatment while he is in detention. [passage omitted]

Xanana May Receive Court-Appointed Lawyer

BK3101133693 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 31 Jan 93

[Text] The Dili District Court will demand that one of the four lawyers accompany Xanana Gusmao during his trial scheduled to begin on Monday. Hizbullah, Dili District Court public relations officer, told newsmen that the court will appoint the lawyer to accompany Xanana if he or his family cannot afford to hire one. According to Hizbullah, until today it not known yet who will be accompanying Xanana at the trial.

One lawyer from Sajono and Associates has applied to the court to defend Xanana, but it not valid yet because the application letter is not attached with an authorization letter from Xanana or his family. Meanwhile, three other lawyers have expressed readiness to accompany Xanana if they are called for by the court.

The trial of the Fretilin [Revolutionary Front for an Independent East Timor] leader will be chaired by Godang S.H. [Master of Law], to be accompanied by two associated judges namely Pandapotan Sinaga S.H., and A.B Rajah S.H. while I. Ketut Suwarwo S.H. will be the chief prosecutor.

Three Lawyers To Accompany Xanana

BK3101155093 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1500 GMT 31 Jan 93

[Text] Sujono and Associates will serve as lawyers for Xanana Gusmao, leader of the Security Disturbing Movement, who will sit as a defendant in a trial at the Dili District Court starting tomorrow. Hizbullah, Dili District Court public relations officer, told RRI [Radio Republik Indonesia] a few moments ago that Xanana's authorization letter had been submitted to and accepted by Dili District Court chief Irominus this evening. During the trial, Xanana Gusmao will be accompanied by three lawyers.

Trial Begins 1 Feb

BK0102075693 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 1 Feb 93

[Excerpt] The lawyers representing Xanana Gusmao, captured East Timor GPK [Security Disturbance Movement] leader, said the trial for Xanana reflects a progress in judicial process in Indonesia. Lawyer Sujono and Associates, appointed by Xanana to defend him in the court trial, said this to newsmen after the first session of the Dili District Court which began at 0900 and ended at 1035 local time today. [passage omitted]

Paper Views Trial

BK0102092393 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 1 Feb 93

[From the press review]

[Text] REPUBLIKA attaches great significance to the trial of Xanana Gusmao, captured East Timor GPK [Security Disturbance Movement] leader, and describes it as the government's efforts to uphold justice, especially in the coming years. Of course, Xanana's trial is not just a judicial process, but also a political event. This daily believes it is normal that this trial will attract the attention of all quarters, namely both the domestic and overseas organizations, including Amnesty International.

REPUBLIKA hopes that Xanana's trial will proceed smoothly. It must not be conducted in a limited way. Rather, the trial must uncover Xanana's activities as an East Timor GPK leader.

First Session Reported

BK0102102293 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0907 GMT 1 Feb 93

[Text] E. Timor, Feb 1, (OANA/ANTARA)—East Timor's Fretilin [Revolutionary Front for an Independent East Timor] Security Disturbing Movement (GPK) leader Jose Alexandre Xanana Gusmao said that he understood and accepted the charges read by prosecutor I. Ketut Swara in the first day of his trial here on Monday. Around 100 people attended the trial in the main room of the Dili District Court in addition to several others outside the building.

The opening session of Xanana's trial lasted less than two hours, mostly taken up with the reading of the charges against him.

Yes, I understand and accept it, he said when presiding judge Hieronymus Godang asked him whether you have read and understood the the charges which have already been translated into the Portuguese language.

Xanana, 46, was charged under the criminal laws for organizing attacks against the government, plotting a rebellion and ilegally holding firearms. The first charge carries a maximum penalty of life sentence while the second death sentence.

Judge Hieronymus Godang was accompanied by two other judges namely Pandapotan Sinaga and Ab Radjah while Xanana was defended by a Jakarta-based lawyer Sudjono who previously had also dealt with some East Timorese cases.

Xanana who always claimed that he did not understand Indonesian language was captured in Dili last November in an operation by the local military. Authorities also said that he was responsible for the November 12, 1991 Dili incident in which about 50 was killed and 90 injured.

During the session Xanana reportedly said that his nationality was Indonesian which observers said reflected his recognition of the Jakarta authority over East Timor.

East Timor, formerly a Portuguese colony for over 400 years, officially joined Indonesia as its 27th province in 1976 after a self-determination process a year earlier as reflected in the Balibo Declaration.

The trial, which is opened to public, is also covered by Portuguese journalists representing SIC [Cultural Information Services of the Third World News Agency], DAILY newspaper, Radio Renascanca and PUBLICO DAILY, although Jakarta has no diplomatic relations with Lisbon.

The session is to resume on Wednesday while the whole trial may last for more than a month.

Official Views Planned Nuclear Power Plant

BK0102073193 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0627 GMT 1 Feb 93

[Excerpt] Jakarta, Feb 1 (OANA/ANTARA)—Amid the polemics on the use of nuclear energy, the National Atomic Energy Board (BATAN) last week announced that the country's first nuclear power plant in Mount Muria, Central Java, would cost about 1.2 billion U.S. dollars.

BATAN, which has just completed its techno-economic study on the 600-megawatt plant, is now taking into consideration the type of nuclear reactors, construction sites, and participation of private companies for the Mount Muria project, the board's Deputy Chairman Iyos R. Subki told the press.

According to Subki, the exact construction cost, however, would depend on the kind of project to be built.

He also said that his board was now studying several kinds of plants including the pressurized water reactor, boiling water reactor, pressurized heavy water reactor, simplified boiling water reactor, and the AP-600 type.

Subki dismissed as rather baseless the worries that a nuclear power plant would cause serious environmental problems, saying that a Japanese consultant had been studying the site plan since 1991 and this would be completed in 1995.

There is no reason to be concerned because BATAN will keep the radioactive waste for 60 years before it dumps it away, he said.

Among those opposing the nuclear power plant, which is scheduled to be operational in 2003—if everything goes on as planned—is the Indonesian Environmental Forum (WALHI).

The forum made known its stance by saying that such a plant would be too expensive while Indonesia did not have the technical experience to operate it safely.

A scientist with Greenpeace, Jean McSorley also expressed concerns by the end of 1992 and said that the plant would be vulnerable to volcanic activities and earthquakes.

The debate may still go on but President Suharto himself last year already put an end to it with a statement tantamount to an endorsement of the issue.

The time has come for us to seriously consider the use of nuclear energy to generate electricity, Suharto said.

State Minister for Research and Technology B.J. Habibie, the initiator of the project, was also quick to point out that nuclear power plants were safe and that safety precautions would get the highest priority.

Taking a long-term perspective, Habibie also sees nuclear plants as a vehicle for Indonesia to become a high-tech nation in its own right. Mines and Energy Minister Ginanjar Kartasasmita chimed in as well by saying that the percentage of nuclear plants that had leaked radioactivity was very small. [passage omitted]

Information Cooperation With Malaysia To Improve

BK2801084493 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 28 Jan 93

[Text] Indonesia and Malaysia have agreed to further upgrade their bilateral cooperation in the field of information. This was disclosed during a meeting between Information Minister Harmoko and Malaysian Information Minister Datuk Mohamed Rahmat in Jakarta this morning.

Elaborating on this to reporters, Alex Leo Zulkarnain, director general of Radio, Televison, and Film [RTF], said a bilateral cooperation agreement will be signed in Bandung tomorrow in an effort to realize the cooperation agreement between Bandung's radio listeners club and the Radio Television Malaysia listeners club from Kempas, Johor Baru, Malaysia. According to the RTF director general, the two ministers are of the opinion that the Bandung agreement is a first step and in the future cooperation will be further extended to other places, particularly to those regions that are in close proximity with Malaysia.

The Malaysian information minister and delegation are on a three-day visit and will be in the country until 30 January.

Suharto Discusses Ties With Russian Envoy

BK0102093393 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0700 GMT 1 Feb 93

[Text] Following his meeting with President Suharto in Jakarta today, Russian Ambassador to Indonesia (Valeriy Marigen) told newsmen that the Russian Federation wishes to cooperate with the Nonaligned Movement [NAM] which is currently under the leadership of President Suharto. During the meeting with the head of state at the Merdeka Presidential Palace, Ambassador (Valeriy Marigen) also handed over Russian President Boris Yeltsin's message to President Suharto.

He said that apart from discussing Russia's relations with the NAM with President Suharto, he also expressed his government's wish to promote ties with Indonesia. According to (Valeriy Marigen), there is no political obstacle to the promotion of bilateral ties. In view of that, Russia places high priority to the promotion of economic ties. He said this can be done because Russia has adopted an open-market economic system.

Another factor that can help boost the bilateral economic ties is the fact that many factories in Russia which produced military equipment in the past have now altered their function to produce consumer goods.

Laos

PRC's Qian Qichen Arrives for Visit 30 Jan

BK3001131693 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 30 Jan 93

[Text] In response to the invitation of Phoun Sipaseut, deputy prime minister and foreign minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], at noon on 30 January, the delegation of the Chinese Government led by Qian Qichen, Chinese state councillor and foreign minister, arrived for an official friendship visit to the LPDR. The friendship visit to the LPDR by Qiang Qichen is aimed at further developing and strengthening the relations of friendship and bilateral cooperation between Laos and China.

At 1500 on 30 January, the delegation of the LPDR Government headed by Phoun Sipaseut met and held talks with the delegation of the Chinese Government headed by Qian Qichen to exchange and to draw lessons from each other on the strengthening and development of the time-honored relations of friendship. At the meeting, the two sides stressed the broadening of (?economic) cooperation, especially in trade and the promotion of investment in Laos as well as in other fields. This cooperation should be broadened in order to make these fields more fruitful with a view to contributing to building and gradually making more progressive the economic, scientific, and technical foundations in Laos in the interests of the Lao and Chinese peoples. In addition, the delegations of the two governments also exchanged views with each other on their respective foreign policies and discussed other international issues. The two sides pledged to step up efforts to direct the international situation to go along with the new international order.

During his visit to Laos, Qian Qichen will together with his Lao counterpart sign various documents, particularly an agreement on the Lao-Chinese border demarcation line, together with [words indistinct] the Lao-Chinese Border Treaty and other documents related to the organizing and management of investment.

Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen will pay courtesy calls on top leaders of the Lao party and government on

31 January, including LPDR President Nouhak Phoumsavan and Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon.

Protocol, Agreement Signed

BK0102075393 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 1 Feb 93

[Text] On the morning of 31 January, a ceremony was held in Vientiane to mark the signing of the Lao-Chinese border protocol and agreement on mutual investment promotion and protection between the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and the Government of the PRC. Signing the protocol and the agreement for the Lao side was Phoun Sipaseut, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs of the LPDR, while signing for the Chinese side was Qian Qichen, state councillor and minister of foreign affairs of the PRC.

The heads of the two government delegations agreed that signing the Lao-Chinese border protocol on this occasion once again proves the sincerity of both sides in settling the border problem in a quick and harmonious manner. They noted: The signing of the protocol has served as a good example in maintaining good-neighbor relations. It has also contributed to consolidating, promoting, and expanding to a new, favorable step the traditional relations of friendship between the two states and two peoples of Laos and China. Signing the agreement on mutual investment promotion and protection between the Lao and Chinese Governments has also clearly showed once again the desire of the two governments to promote, protect, and create favorable conditions for investors of one signatory state to make investments in territories of another signatory state on the basis of respect for each other's sovereignty, equality, and mutual benefits, and with the purpose of developing economic cooperation between the two states.

The investment promotion and protection agreement clearly specifies the limits, rights, and power to be implemented by one signatory state towards investors from another signatory state in conformity with their regulations and laws. The agreement also clearly specifies rights and obligations of investors as well as various regulations and steps in settling disagreements that might arise between the signatory states or disputes between investors from one signatory state and investors from another signatory state in connection with investments made in the territory of the signatory states of the agreement.

This agreement will come into effect on the first day of the following month or after the day on which the two signatory states inform each other by writing of their approval of the agreement in accordance with their regulations and laws. The agreement will be valid for 10 years.

Visits Reported; Delegation Departs

BK0102071393 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 1 Feb 93

[Text] During an official friendship visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] on 31 January, a government delegation of the PRC led by Qian Qichen, state councillor and minister of foreign affairs, paid a courtesy call on Nouhak Phoumsavan, president of the LPDR, at the Presidential Office in Vientiane. On this occasion, President Nouhak Phoumsavan expressed pleasure over and highly assessed the delegation's visit to the LPDR. He said: The visit is considered very significant as it takes place at a time when relations between the two countries have been restored and improved. The signing of the Lao-Chinese border protocol, the agreement on a relevant map attached to the border treaty, and the agreement on mutual investment promotion and protection between the two governments has significantly contributed to promoting and expanding relations and cooperation between the two countries. The contented settlement of the border problem, which is considered a main problem between the two countries, in a short period of only two years shows the sincerity of both sides in settling the problem. It has also reflected once again the promotion and development of the time-honored spirit of friendship between the peoples of the two countries.

On the morning of the same day, Khamtai Siphandon, prime minister of the LPDR, also received at the Office of the Prime Minister in Vientiane a courtesy call from Qian Qichen and his delegation. On this occasion, Qian Qichen informed the prime minister about the success of his delegation's friendship visit to the LPDR. On the same occasion, Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon hailed the talks between the Chinese and the Lao Government delegations, and the agreements which have been reached, in particular the agreement on turning the common border into a border of genuine friendship and cooperation. As a result, traditional relations and cooperation in the economic and trade field have been promoted, expanded, and consolidated step by step with a new quality.

The meeting and talks on the border issue and on investment promotion and protection between Laos and China was officially held between the two government delegations in Vientiane on the afternoon of 30 January. The Lao side was headed by Phoun Sipaseut, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, and the Chinese side was headed by Qian Qichen, state councillor and minister of foreign affairs. In the talks, the two sides sincerely discussed the boundary problem and means to settle it harmoniously. The two sides also exchanged views on the further promotion, expansion, and strengthening of friendly relations between the two countries in order to bring about development of economic and trade cooperation along the border areas in conformity with the era and practical conditions of the two countries, in particular investment promotion and protection on the basis of respect for each other's sovereignty, equality, and mutual benefit. The two sides also raised for discussion certain problems concerning world and regional situations.

That evening, the PRC Government delegation led by Qian Qichen attended a banquet organized in its honor by Deputy Prime Minister Phoun Sipaseut. The PRC Government delegation arrived in Vientiane at noon on 30 January for an official friendship visit to the LPDR at the invitation of Phoun Sipaseut. The delegation left for home this morning.

Paper Notes Increase in Foreign Investment

BK2801090193 Vientiane PASASON in Lao 25 Jan 93 p 2

[Article by S. Phanthavong: "Foreign Investment in the Lao People's Democratic Republic"]

[Text] According to statistics released by the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations, in the past five years (1988-1992), the total foreign investment in 280 projects carried out in the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] is valued at U.S.$490.77 million.

In 1988, the first year in which the policy of promoting foreign investment in the LPDR was implemented, only U.S.$3.3 million was invested in eight projects in this country by foreign enterprises. In the following year (1989), the LPDR Government gave the green light to foreign investors to invest some U.S.$64.5 million in 151 more projects here. In 1990, the government approved 47 additional projects for foreign investment worth some U.S.$85.2 million. In 1991, the government gave permission to more foreigners to invest in 70 more projects for a total of U.S.$161.3 million. In 1992, foreign investment in 104 projects shot up to U.S.$176.2 million.

Foreign investment in the past five years in this country can be classified into three categories as follows: contractual businesses in 28 projects, joint ventures in 131 projects, and unilateral foreign investment in 131 projects. This investment has been carried out in 14 different fields, namely, agriculture, garments, wood processing and other industries, mining, fuel, import-export, hotel and tourism, banking and insurance, consultancy, construction, transportation, maintenance, telecommunications, retailing, restuarants, and other vocational services. Of these, most of the foreign investment has been concentrated in the industrial sector with 58 projects, the import-export sector with 49 projects, and the garment sector with 47 projects. In money terms, the investment in hotel and tourism businesses ranks first at U.S.$106.949 million, industrial businesses second at U.S.$64.7 million, and import-export businesses third at U.S.$60.8 million.

Ranking first among the 25 countries investing in Laos is Thailand which has invested U.S.$159.503 million in 11 projects. Next is the United States with a total investment of U.S.$74.821 million in 16 projects; and third is Taiwan with U.S.$40.706 million in 18 projects.

Statistics clearly show that foreign investment here is rising with each passing day, thus reflecting the correct policy of our party, especially in carrying out the restructuring which has become an important factor lending impetus to our rapid national development and construction.

Election Committee Ends Meeting, Reports Success

BK3001063193 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 26 Jan 93

[Text] A meeting to review lessons and assess achievements of the election of the third National Assembly was closed this afternoon after two days of working. The meeting was held under the chairmanship of Nouhak Phoumsavan, chairman of the National-Level Election Committee, and was attended by members of the committee, members of electoral committees at the provincial level, and ministers. Also attending were chairmen of mass organizations and heads of companies or collective units at the central level which have contributed to campaigns for the election of the third National Assembly.

On this occasion, Chaleun Yiapaoheu, member of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] Standing Committee and standing member of the National-Level Election Committee, reported the success of the meeting in reviewing lessons and achievements of the election to our station correspondent.

[Begin Chaleun recording] As reported earlier, the meeting of the National-Level Election Committee to review lessons and achievements concerning the election of the third National Assembly was held on 25 and 26 January. During the two-day meeting, after hearing reports delivered by Nouhak Phoumsavan, chairman of the committee, and by various subcommittees [names of subcommittees indistinct] under the National-Level Election Committee, delegates at the meeting and the electoral committees of various provinces took turns discussing the election. Afterwards, the meeting concluded with the following overall assessments:

1. The election of members to the third National Assembly was successfully organized in accordance with the adopted objectives and expections. The success is seen through the following: First, [words indistinct] the sense of political awareness of the multiethnic people has been promoted. This includes the sense of being owners of the country and the sense of promoting and expanding democratic rights with the patriotic spirit and spirit of cherishing the new system. This success has been seen through the fact that a large number of Lao citizens—electoral voters—voluntarily turned out to vote, the percentage of void ballots was recorded at only 0.16, and public security was completely maintained throughout

the country during the election. Secondly, following the political campaigns for the election, the sense of vigilance and sense of self-mastery of the people have been enhanced. [words indistinct] This is considered a significant success in the election of the third National Assembly. Third, meritorious deeds were acheived in promoting various movements such as the movement in harvesting seasonal rice crops, the movement in defending the country and maintaining public security, and the movement in building or repairing roads, schools, and hospitals. Other movements have been also carried out in an enthusiastic atmosphere throughout the country. In many provinces, the people regarded 20 January as a day of emulation in fulfilling tasks. Fourth, the election of the third National Assembly was considered a political campaign related to consolidating and building the popular democratic system, including the (?restructuring) of administrations and mass organizations at the grass roots. [passage indistinct] In addition, in all localities and branches of service, the people have promoted and implemented their roles in accordance with the popular democratic system, thus serving as the strength for the implementation of the revolutionary cause.

At the same time, the meeting pointed out that along with the successes, there remain some weak points and shortcomings. The first main shortcoming was the education and training about a sense of mastery. [words indistinct] The understanding of the people in this regard remains at different levels. In many rural, mountainous areas, the multiethnic people still maintain a low level of cultural understanding. As a result, they are slow to accept new policies. The second was that in certain localities, the policy on infrastructure building at the grass roots has not been effectively implemented. This affected preparations for and the organizing of the election. [passage indistinct]

In addition, the delegates to the meeting also reviewed the implementation, in detail, of the law on election and fulfilling other tasks in serving the election, such as registering names of eligible voters, appointing electoral committees, arranging candidates to run in the election, and other aspects. Certain weak points in the process of this election have been noted in the meeting.

It can be said in general that the meeting proceeded in an enthusiastic, active atmosphere and that it was filled with vital, rich contents. It is seen that the election was held with firm contents. This has been noted through the fact that the people's sense of consciousness has been raised to an ever higher level, the vote casting target has been successfully fulfilled, and the election organization system has been consolidated as cadres have been trained. This is considered a significant step in leading to consolidating and perfecting an even firmer popular democratic system.

Beloved listeners, it is certain that after the successful meeting and after the successful election, you may want want to know what the third National Assembly will do. Regarding this, according to Article 41 of the Constitution, the new assembly must hold its first session within 60 days after its establishment. This 60-day period began on 20 December 1992 and expires on 20 February 1993. This means the first session of the third National Assembly will be convened on or not later than 20 February 1993. In its first session, specific characteristics of the third National Assembly will be discussed and endorsed. It will also discuss the structure of the Standing Committee of the third National Assembly and law on the third National Assembly. It will then discuss and endorse the structure of government and the state budget for implementing the socioeconomic development plan for 1993.

All these are about the contents and direction for promoting and expanding the success of the meeting and for the tasks to be fulfilled in preparing for convening the first session of the third National Assembly. This means that we will have to continue to carry out many tasks. Moreover, we will also continue to review outstanding achievements and organize to praise and hail various localities and units which have scored outstanding achievements in the political campaigns in connection with the election of the third National Assembly. I therefore inform the multiethnic people of the issue. Thank you. [end recording]

Philippines

Police Say Killers of U.S. Colonel Die in Shootout

HK0102112293 Hong Kong AFP in English 1115 GMT 1 Feb 93

[Text] Manila, Feb 1 (AFP)—Six communist rebels, responsible for the murder of a U.S. colonel and the kidnappings of wealthy U.S, Chinese and Philippine nationals were killed in pre-dawn shootouts in and around Manila, police said Monday.

Philippine National Police chief Raul Imperial said the six were responsible for the ambush slaying of U.S. Army Colonel James Nicholas Rowe in April 1989 and the kidnapping of American businessman Michael Barnes in 1992.

The group's other kidnap victims included 11 ethnic Chinese and two Filipinos, including the owner of a laundry chain, Zenaida Mendoza, who was freed last week.

Vice President Joseph Estrada, who heads the Presidential Anti-Crime Commission (PACC), said Monday that the police recovered a list of probable kidnapping targets from the slain gang members.

He said the list of four Chinese-Filipinos included Henry Sy, the owner of the giant Shoemart chain of department stores.

The six gunned down were members of the renegade Red Scorpion Group (RSG), formed "for financial gain" by former members of the Alex Boncayao Brigade, a communist urban guerrrilla squad, an official statement said.

Imperial, in a report to Estrada, said the shootings were the result of "synchronized and coordinated tactical operations" launched jointly by the police, military and PACC.

Nine other members of the RSG were captured in the joint operation launched between January 30 and February 1 in Manila and three areas north and south of the city, he said.

The joint intelligence operation codenamed "Purple Finch" was "designed to negate the kidnapping activities and senior leaders" of the RSG.

The operation uncovered a well-funded, highly sophisticated criminal group.

Police recovered an assault rifle, machine pistols, two .45 pistols, cellular telephones, electronic pagers, grenades, assorted ammunition and cash totalling 1.785 million pesos (71,400 dollars).

The RSG, according to intelligence reports, was planning to intensify its kidnap-for-ransom operations in February and March. The recent spate of kidnappings, many targetting wealthy chinese businessmen and their families, has angered and worried Chinese residents.

University professor Teresita Ang See, spokeswoman of an ethnic Chinese group protesting the government's failure to stop kidnappings, said Monday's killings and arrests were "a very positive development." "We hope that this will lead to the arrest of the mastermind," she said, referring to the RSG's elusive leader Alfredo de Leon, the country's most wanted criminal figure.

The first shootout happened in Cavite province south of Manila Monday, shortly after midnight. The second occurred less than two hours later in Bulacan province north of the capital. The first fatalities included Ronnie Oseo, RSG intelligence and operations officer, Alberto Daylom, a logistics officer, and Jimmy Rodriguez, commanding officer of RSG south command.

The three were spotted and pursued after they ignored checkpoints set up by the PACC at the south exits from Manila and fired automatic handguns at authorities.

In the second shootout, Rolando Panelowan, RSG commanding officer of north command, and two other members of their combat force were gunned down. RSG chief finance officer Daniel Calilung and eight staff members were captured.

Imperial said the killings and arrests were a "serious setback" to the RSG, adding that police and the PACC "will pursue its intelligence operations to completely neutralize the RSG and other kidnap-for-ransom groups."

The kidnapping activities, which intensified last year, have embarrassed the new administration, which is trying to clean up the country's image to attract more foreign investment to spur economic growth.

Almonte: U.S. Still 'Huge Factor' in Stability

HK0102052593 Manila MANILA STANDARD in English 1 Feb 93 p 5

[Report by Liana J. Santos]

[Text] More than a year has passed since a new treaty extending the stay of the U.S. bases in the Philippines was rejected by the Senate, the treaty-ratifying body. But National Security Adviser Jose Almonte said that despite the rejection and eventual dismantling of the U.S. bases here, Filipinos continue to regard the United States as a tremendous factor in East Asian stability.

During the recent Asia Pacific Forum on Internal and External Cooperation in the 1990s and beyond, Almonte admitted that U.S. influence is a huge factor. But more than just influence, the United States, with its military supremacy, has restrained Japanese, Chinese and North Korean military ambitions.

Despite the dismantling of the U.S. bases here, other East Asian nations want the Americans to maintain a military presence in Southeast Asia. This has been the sentiment, although the U.S. merely wants to emphasize airlift capacity and rapid deployment of sea-air power instead of maintaining many fixed bases outside their territory.

This is the way the U.S. is working nowadays. The way the Gulf War was fought in 1991 and the current U.S. skirmishes with the Iraqi army demonstrate this principle. The U.S. Army's current base of operations is apparently the USS Kitty Hawk, one of their country's largest aircraft carriers.

Moreover, Almonte said the U.S., being the biggest market for East Asian exports, influences the economies of the countries in the region.

The value of Philippine exports to the U.S. is quite large to the point that it amounts to more than that of the other markets, including Japan and the European Community combined, Almonte said.

But Almonte foresees that the increasing economic conflicts between the U.S. and Japan may force Japan to be more assertive in the Asian region, if only to protect its investments here. This is very possible since Japan is now considered as the third largest economic power next to the U.S. and Europe, he said.

U.S. companies have even been pressuring the U.S. government because of what they regard as unfair trade practices on the part of their Japanese competitors. U.S. firms are currently not as competitive as Japanese firms, Almonte said.

The conflict is most obvious in the emerging regional blocs—the North American Free Trade Area (NAFTA) and the Asean Free Trade Area (AFTA)—of which Japan is not included.

There will undoubtedly be increased Japanese investments in Mexico but the fact remains that Japan has been excluded from NAFTA. In Asia, Japan can still be a part of a trading bloc if the East Asian Economic Caucus (EAEC) or the Asia-Pacific Economic Caucus (APEC) becomes a reality.

In a report on U.S. relations with Asia in the post Cold War period, the San Francisco-based Asia Foundation said that, as part of the American security commitment in the region, the U.S. should pay particular attention to Japan.

Asia Foundation recommended that American policymakers link security issues and other political matters with economic issues. It was time for the U.S. to allow Japan a greater decision-making role.

But C. Michael Aho, director of economic studies of the U.S. Council on Foreign Relations said that this antagonistic stance toward each other is unnatural. The U.S. and Japan together produce over 40 percent of the world's gross national product (GNP) aside from both having the most advanced science and technology. Also, Aho said Japan is the U.S. biggest creditor while the U.S. is Japan's largest market.

As such, Aho stated that both countries share common interests in increasing world-wide growth, reducing exchange rate instability, fostering economic development, protecting the environment, and promoting peace and prosperity.

It is not, however, the threat of Japanese competition alone that threatens U.S. businessmen. He said the U.S. already faces strong competition from East Asian firms.

These companies will most likely establish operations in Mexico to gain access to the U.S. market since NAFTA will include the U.S., Canada and Mexico.

PNA Reports Ramos Address in Kuala Lumpur

BK2901061193 Manila PNA in English 0453 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Jan. 29 (OANA-PNA)—Philippine President Fidel V. Ramos declared before a huge crowd of Malaysian businessmen that industrial peace in the Philippines has been restored and that the country is now ready for an economic takeoff.

Speaking at the luncheon tendered by the National Chamber of Commerce and Industries of Malaysia (NCCIM) at the Mahkota room of the Istana Hotel, President Ramos then invited investors to consider the Philippines as their possible involvement site.

"We sincerely hope Malaysian investors and industrialists see their way to taking part in our efforts to raise our economy to industrialized status," the chief executive stressed.

The president emphasized his determination to develop the Philippines into a newly industrialized country (NIC) within his six-year term and said he will appreciate the contribution of Malaysians for the country's economic takeoff. To strengthen economic relations before the two countries, the president proposed a growth triangle composed of Mindanao, Sulawesi, and Sabah which is the envisioned sub-regional economic arrangements in the framework of ASEAN economic cooperation.

"But there could be other such undertakings involving Malaysia and the Philippines with other partners," he said.

The chief executive noted that there is a "slack" in the two countries' two-way commercial relations. He said that Malaysian investments in the country manifest an inconsistent trend.

"From 271,000 U.S.dollars in 1987 and 10.7 million U.S. dollars in 1989, Malaysian investments approved by our Board of investments decreased to 552,000 U.S. dollars in 1991, which only represents less than one percent of our total foreign investments," he said.

The president encouraged Malaysian businessmen to invest in the Philippines to balance the economic trade. The president said the Philippines incurred a trade deficit of 769 million U.S. dollars in 1992. "We incurred another 238 million U.S. dollars deficit in trade, mainly because of oil imports," he added.

President Ramos assured them that a stable investment climate awaits them in the country. During the luncheon, he enumerated his program aimed at freeing the economy.

He guarantee their safety while in the country and vowed to further liberalize the economy; the president mentioned that power and energy problem is being asked upon by the government through its various fast track power projects.

He also said that liberalization of our banking system and foreign exchange, the privatization of government-owned and controlled corporations are some incentives for foreign investors. The president also mentioned before the businessmen the details of his administrator's Medium Term Development Plan (MTDP).

Ramos Returns, Speaks on Successful Visit

HK3101065193 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0636 GMT 30 Jan 93

[Speech by President Fidel Ramos at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport, Manila, on his return from Malaysia—live, in English]

[Text] Former President and Mrs. Diosdado Macapagal, Speaker and Mrs. Jose de Venecia, the president pro tempore of the Senate, Senator Guingona, other distinguished members of Congress, Your Excellencies of the Diplomatic Corps, fellow workers in government, my dear fellowmen:

Mrs. Ramos and I and the rest of our delegation are extremely happy to be back on Philippine soil. It is always good to be back home, particularly after a journey of fullfillment and renewal. Today, I can tell you that our visit to Malaysia was successful beyond expectations. [applause] The future may even tell us that it was historic.

When we began this journey three days ago, we had set for ourselves the following tasks: to renew traditional friendship in the Asian spirit, improve and expand the whole range of Philippine-Malaysian relations, and build stronger links anchored on common interests.

At the invitation of his majesty, the Yang DiPertuan Agung, Malaysia's king, and with the unfailing and generous hospitality of Malaysia's government and people, we ventured into new avenues of mutual understanding, new paths for resolving difficult issues, and noble ideas for cooperation.

It is with a deep sense of accomplishment that I report to the Filipinos that our state visit to Malaysia succeeded not just in attaining its initial objectives, but also in laying the foundations on which to build a new edifice of our future relations. [applause]

The first state visit of a Philippine president to Malaysia in 25 years is in itself a clear indication that the relationship between the Philippines and Malaysia is entering a new chapter in their eventful history. To be sure, some issues, important issues remain. These are issues that are left over from history, [words indistinct] inherently from the immutable fact of our geographical propinquity. But the understanding reached between the prime minister of Malaysia and the president of the Philippines has provided new avenues and new approaches for their discussions, and therefore, new hope for their settlement. [applause]

Just as important is that, quite apart from the contentious issues, Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed and I agreed to look into the future and move our countries' relations forward. We were one in recognizing the necessity of facilitating and regulating the human interaction and the exchange of goods and services between Sabah and southern Philippines, while placing the area between them under more effective control.

Accordingly, we agreed to resume consideration of the draft boarder crossing and joint patrol agreement, which would also improve the security of our southern border. I conveyed our concern over the situation of Filipinos in Sabah. Prime Minister Mahathir expressed the Malaysian Government's readiness to consider the establishment of an extension office in east Malaysia which would be of immense help to our government in protecting and assisting our citizens in that area.

In turn, Dr. Mahathir requested for Philippine Government's consideration a similar Malaysian office in southern Philippines, mainly for the promotion of trade between the Philippines and Malaysia.

The Prime Minister and I agreed that it was time to place trade, investments, tourism, and other economic interaction at the center of the relations between our two countries.

The principal thrust of my visit was to intensify the economic relationship between the Philippines and Malaysia. He shared my hope and expectation that the visit would, indeed, result in a spur of business activities between us.

There are doubts for such hopes. We devoted a substantial part of the visit to several meetings with Malaysia's business leaders and captains of industries. We informed them of our accomplishments in restoring political stability, improving the peace and order situation, and ensuring industrial peace. Malaysian business leaders welcomed news of our accelerated power and energy projects, infrastructure programs, liberalized investments and foreign exchange regulations, and other measures that help create a hospitable environment for foreign investments.

The presence of top Filipino business leaders in my delegation manifested the substantial economic component of the visit. The visit gave them the opportunity for contacts with government and business leaders from this rapidly growing economy.

No less than seven joint venture agreements were concluded during the visit. [appaluse] Kong Yong Engineering and Sarte Teodoro and Associates agreed to produce in the Philippines computer software for export, thus providing not only employment but high technology to strengthen Philippine competitiveness in this fast-growing industry.

Ayala Corporation concluded with (Hong Yeung) a joint venture agreement for a plastic packaging project. (Hume) Industries of Malaysia, the (Pima Group and the FL Speed) Group of Denmark, the world's largest maker of cement manufacturing equipment, established a joint venture to manufacture prefabricated concrete products in the Philippines to fill the needs of the construction industry. WR Shipping and Baliwag Navigation concluded separate agreements with the Malaysian Mining Corporation for the implementation of two ventures: one on mining of gold and copper and the other involving the dredging of silted dams and rivers, including the lahar-damaged areas of Central Luzon. The Goco Group and (Buenaventura Philharmonic

South) established an investment fund to mobilize capital for investment projects in the Philippines. Reynolds-Philippines and the leader Universal Cable Holdings agreed to launch an aluminum rod manufacturing project.

A memorandum of understanding was also signed between Alba Raca Malaysia and the Filipino group of investors, led by the Mastura Group, to implement the rehabilitation of the Philippine Amana Bank pursuant to the privatization plan approved by the Committee on Privatization.

Prime Minister Mahathir pledged his government's encouragement and support for Malaysian investments in the Philppines, particularly in manufacturing and tourism. The Malaysian Government would also welcome efforts to promote Philippine exports to Malaysia.

Prime Minister Mahathir and I agreed that we should establish a mechanism to deal with the whole range of our relations, which we expect to expand rapidly and substantially as a result of this visit. This mechanism will be a joint commission of high level officials of both governments, who will together deal with the issues between us and work out ways of resolving them. They will also promote activities to strengthen, further, the whole range of the relations between our two countries. Among the subjects that the joint commission will be dealing with are trade, investments and trourism, technical cooperation on agriculture, the situation of Filipino workers and migrants in Malaysia including those in Sabah, air services between the two countries, and the development of southern Philippines. The joint commission shall also resume the discussion of the boarder crossing and joint patrol arrangements.

All these new initiatives are supportive of the spirit of ASEAN brotherhood and solidarity. This visit laid the foundations for a special bridge between the Philippines and Malaysia, and building that bridge will be a long, step-by-step process. But I am confident that with patience, determination, hard work, and a deeper sense of mutuality, we Filipinos and Malaysians will complete and reinforce it for our peoples to cross in friendship and enduring peace. Thank you all for keeping the faith with our shared vision of a restored and better Philippines. Many thanks and long live the Philippines. [applause]

Chief of Staff on Peace Talks With Communists

HK2901145793 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] The Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] still wants the government to hold peace talks with only one group from the rebel Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army [CPP-NPA] but if Jose Maria Sison cannot be convinced to participate in the peace process, the government has no choice but to talk with other rebel leaders in the country.

This was the statement by AFP chief General Lisandro Abadia in response to Sison's statement today that he was not yet convinced about the Ramos administration's sincerity in its peace initiatives.

Abadia said it would have been better had Sison responded to the government offer of peace but, if he could not be convinced, the government should start talking with other NPA leaders in the country.

The AFP chief explained that if the government talks peace with local NPA commanders it will not affect the peace process because they would still be part of the CPP-NPA.

RAM Prepares More Talks Demands

HK0102060593 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE WEEKLY in English 31 Jan 93 pp 1, 6

[Report by Redempto Anda]

[Text] The Rebolusyonaryong Alyansang makabansa (RAM) [Revolutionary Nationalist Alliance] is preparing more demands, including the resignation of certain government officials and their investigation for graft, before it agrees to a political settlement, a source inside RAM said.

The demands, the source said, will be presented as soon as the RAM panel is convinced that its government counterpart has "full authority" to negotiate.

The other day, a RAM official said he expected the talks to get "very difficult" once the RAM presents its conditions, one of which is a guarantee that the government will prosecute certain top government officials. The official, who asked not to be named, said they are going to submit to the government a list of officials whom they said should be investigated either for graft and corruption or for having received behest favors from the government.

"We will come out with the list and we will have it published in due time," the official said. He hinted that the list includes even some of President Ramos' political allies whose names have been linked to financial and political scandals.

He explained that their demand will be for the government to "commit that they will prosecute these people" and that those who will be investigated "should step down." The official, however, declined to mention who are included in the list.

"What we want is a guarantee that the government will really go after them, not simply that they will say yes to our demands but a guarantee," he said.

The government panel, headed by law professor Alfredo Tadiar, has yet to convince the RAM that it has "full authority" to negotiate.

Gen. Edgardo Abenina, chairman of the RAM panel, strongly hinted the other day that they would not deal with the Tadiar panel if it did not have the authority to commit at least the executive department.

"It (negotiation) is like a game of basketball; there should be a captain ball to call the shots," Abenina said. [sentence as published]

The RAM panel the other day refused to proceed with the talks unless the Tadiar panel showed proper authorization from the government and a description of its "scope of authority."

The RAM is also expected to move for the transfer of the talks from the Philippine Heart Center building, where the office of the National Unification Commission (NUC) is located.

The Tadiar panel had admitted it could not "commit the government at this time," explaining that the limits of its authority is defined by the government's system of decision-making. Tadiar explained that in matters of policy-making, the panel had to consult both the executive and the legislative branches.

Meanwhile, Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon disclosed the other day that the NUC would not seek an extension of its term after March 16 this year, but will propose to Malacanang the creation of an "amnesty commission" that would continue with the NUC's mandate.

The NUC was formed to draft a "peace agenda" for the government by consulting with different sectors of society. It has until March 16 to finish the peace proposal.

Drilon, a member of the commission, also said his colleagues are not interested to join the body that would succeed it. "We don't want an extension. The new body will take over what the NUC will leave behind," he said.

Another NUC member, Defense Secretary Renato de Villa, denied that the talks with military rebels had been suspended after they accused the government of reneging on an agreement to free all rightist rebels.

"Our panel is resolving it. There's nothing to be excited about. The peace process will go on," de Villa told reporters.

The peace talks were organized to draw all insurgent groups to the negotiating table.

Thailand

Chuan Silent on Exploitation of Cambodia

BK3001155093 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 30 Jan 93

[Text] Asked about the proposal made by the Saudi charge d'affaires for the closure of the Saudi embassy in Thailand for security reasons, Prime Minister Chuan Likphai said the problem of relations between the two countries is not so serious to the point that the Saudi embassy has to be closed. Saying that he does not have much details about the issue, the prime minister told reporters that the present government has paid much attention to relations between the two countries. He noted that this is an old problem left behind for his government to solve. However, the Foreign Ministry, he added, has the duty to create good understanding between the two countries. He said:

[Begin recording] [Chuan] In fact, we have paid too much attention to the matter. It is our intention to solve the problem for them. It is an old problem left behind for the government to solve.

[Unidentified report] We must try to clear up the misunderstanding.

[Chuan] Yes, we must. It must be done at the national level. After all evidence is gathered from the investigation, the Interior Ministry will submit the findings to the government and Foreign Ministry will take further actions through appropriate channels. [End recording]

The prime minister refused to answer questions pertaining to the accusation made by Prince Norodom Sihanouk that Thailand has been exploiting all forms of assistance for all the Khmer factions.

Government Concedes on Cambodian Log Export Ban

BK3101082893 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 30 Jan 93

[Text] Speaking to reporters during his border inspection tour in Chiang Rai Province about the rejection of Thailand's request for a grace period to bring out felled logs from Cambodia by the SNC [Supreme National Council] during its meeting in Beijing, Deputy Foreign Minister Surin Phitsuwan said the Thai Government will suspend its efforts to seek the relaxation of the log exports ban to help Thai logging entrepreneurs until Cambodia holds the election in May.

However, the deputy foreign minister disclosed that it is still possible to import sawn timber from Cambodia. Touching on the gem exports ban now being worked out by the SNC, Surin said that only big gem importers, not small gem traders along the Thai-Cambodian border, will be affected by the new restriction. He added that the Thai Government is closely watching new developments in this regard.

Princess Chulaphon To Visit Cambodia 1-2 Feb

BK3101153093 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 31 Jan 93

["Announcement by the Royal Household Office;" dated 30 January]

[Text] Princess Chulaphon, daughter of his majesty the king, will pay an official visit to Cambodia on 1-2 February. She will visit Phnom Penh and Siem Reap Province. The princess will hold consultations with the prime minister of Cambodia on development projects for the benefit of the people along the common border of the two countries. She will lead a team of medical doctors who will give treatment to the Cambodian people based on humanitarian spirit and a spirit of neighborliness.

The princess will also visit sites of historical and cultural importance. She will grant an audience to Thai residents in Cambodia at Chamka Mon Guest House on 2 February.

Princess Chulaphon will be accompanied on the trip by her royal consort, Group Captain Wirayut Dityasarin. They will travel by a special flight of the Royal Thai Air Force which is scheduled to leave from Sattahip Naval Base in Chon Buri Province at 0820 on 1 February and will return by the same plane which will arrive at the Air Force Headquarters Airport, Don Muang, at 1715 on 2 February.

The public is hereby informed.

Announced by the Royal Household Office on 30 January.

Supreme Command Reports on Border Situation

BK3001070093 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 30 Jan 93

[Text] The Supreme Command reports that the situation at the Thai-Cambodian border has been normal in January. Lieutenant General Anuson Kritsanaserani, director general of the Armed Forces Information Office, says fighting still occurs in Cambodia but does not affect the border. He says that fighting is even getting fiercer, but it is deep in the Cambodian territory. Lieutenant General Anuson says the Army supports the government in observing the UN resolutions on trade sanctions against the Khmer Rouge and Army units have been put along the border to keep order there. Cambodia will hold general elections in May this year, but those in the Khmer Rouge area have not registered to vote.

250,000 Displaced Cambodians Repatriated

BK2901073393 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] A total of 250,662 displaced Cambodians, or about two-thirds of those seeking refuge in Thailand, has been repatriated. Deputy chief of the Cambodian Repatriation Coordinating Center, Major Genearl Somchai Setaphan, says those Cambodians were sent back from 30 March 1992 to 15 January this year. The repatriation was organized by Thailand's Cambodian coordinating center and the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, or UNHCR. However, there are still over 105,000 Cambodians at refugee camps in Ta Phraya and Khlong Hat districts of Prachin Buri. Major General Somchai says a group of UN officials is surveying and registering those Cambodian refugees who are eligible to vote in the general elections expected to be held in May this year. Registration will be made until 31 January and the remaining displaced Cambodians will return to their homeland in March.

Stronger Action Against Burma's SLORC Urged

BK2901010193 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 29 Jan 93 p 4

[Editorial: "Out of sight, but never out of mind"]

[Text] Although she has not spoken or been seen in public for four years, her imprisonment is still regarded as a symbol of resistance and hope for a country that has chosen the path of democracy, brutally denied them by a murderous military regime.

When the Nobel Peace Prize committee awarded its highest honour to Aung San Suu Kyi, the citation described her as "one of the most extraordinary examples of civil courage in Asia in recent decades". Suu Kyi's nonviolent approach in the face of brutality has been the driving force behind the Burmese people's desire for democracy, a will demonstrated through the ballot box, and a result ignored by a regime that reneged on its promises for a transference of power.

Burma's ruling junta, the State Law and Order Restoration Committee (SLORC) has, through its bloody suppression of Burma's pro-democracy movement over the past few years, unwittingly been working on her behalf to increase her popularity. Most of the free world has made no secret of its concern for the plight of the Burmese people—a message that should not be lost on regional governments that persist in doing business with Rangoon. Burma's neighbours are out of step with international consensus and the majority views of the Burmese people.

Thailand's cosy relationship with Rangoon has done nothing to advance a meaningful and constructive dialogue with those who are intent to hold onto the reigns of power, through whatever means it takes. In the period that Thailand and other ASEAN countries have courted and carried out profitable business dealings with the Burmese regime under a policy of so-called "constructive engagement," conditions for pro-democracy supporters have deteriorated rather than improved. Any justification for this gentle art of persuasion must now be seen as fruitless.

"Constructive engagement" clearly has not worked and a stronger signal that the Burmese junta can understand should be sent by an ASEAN prepared to show some backbone. That message can only be delivered where it will hurt SLORC most. The time has arrived for serious consideration of tough measures against SLORC's continued disregard and contempt for human rights. Cutting off Rangoon's business deals, which fund their purchases of even more weapons to suppress the democratic desires of their own people, is a message that even the most thick-skinned regime can comprehend.

Thailand, along with its ASEAN neighbours, will find that the weight of international criticism against dealings with Rangoon will grow, not fade away and no matter what noises are made about constructive and meaningful dialogues with SLORC, the country can no longer afford to downplay the wishes of the Burmese people.

World attention continues to be focussed on the struggle for human rights in Burma. It will not disappear and the international community will not be forever blind to the actions of those who choose to deal with Rangoon's repressive regime. Even more to the point, the democratic government which must one day take over in Rangoon will already know who its friends are.

The world clearly understands what Aung San Suu Kyi stands for, and the Burmese people are to be admired and envied for having among their ranks a woman who embodies the spirit of humanity, a spirit that has not been broken by the threats of SLORC, nor her imprisonment. She stands as a living embodiment of the most worthy of all causes.

Previously Detained Burmese Refugees Resettled

BK3001035993 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 30 Jan 93 p 6

[Text] A group of 15 Burmese earlier refused permission to leave the country for resettlement elsewhere left Thailand quietly on Thursday night for the United States under the auspices of the International Organisation for Migration, a non-governmental organisation.

The US last year accepted 250 Burmese for resettlement, but as of Wednesday only 75 had been allowed to leave Thailand.

The rest have been barred from leaving the country by the Interior Ministry since December 1 unless they were first interned in a camp in Ratchaburi Province. Human rights groups are known to be concerned that the Interior Ministry's restriction on Burmese asylum-seekers leaving Thailand may also be applied to students offered scholarships to study abroad.

Burmese dissident students, who have fled to Thailand to escape arrest in their own country, said the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees stopped providing them with a 2,500 baht per month allowance since November.

Burmese Refugees Beaten at Detention Center

BK3101010693 Bangkok THE SUNDAY POST in English 31 Jan 93 p 2

[Text] Three Burmese dissident students were allegedly beaten up by 15 Chinese detainees at the Immigration detention centre in Thung Mahamek, Bangkok on Wednesday evening, according to informed refugee sources.

The three Burmese, Maung Maung Oo, Htun Naung Than and Nyi Nyi Lwin, all carrying cards issued by the UNHCR [United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees], were arrested on January 10 with other students when they staged a hunger strike in front of the Burmese embassy to protest against the Constitutional Convention held by the ruling military junta in Rangoon.

Htun Naung Than was seriously beaten up and could not speak two days later, the sources said.

The three students were said to have been taken to the back of their detention cell by the Chinese detainees who beat them up, said the sources, who claimed the police did not intervene.

No medical treatment was given and the students are still being kept at their cell in the detention centre.

The sources said a police inspector, when told of the incident two days later, promised to move the three students to another cell for their safety, but this has not yet been done.

The sources claimed the police at the detention centre might deliberately look the other way while allowing the assault to take place right under their noses.

No action was taken against the assailants, the sources alleged.

Paper: Ties to Burma 'Touchy Issue'

BK3101012293 Bangkok THE SUNDAY POST in English 31 Jan 93 p 22

[Editorial: "Human Rights—A Down to Earth Practice, But a Touchy Issue"]

[Text] As a free country with a democratically elected government, we have nothing to fear or to be worried about being embarrassed with next month's scheduled visit by a number of Nobel laureates who will be here for five days to express their views on freedom and apply pressure on the Burmese military government to release Burma's most courageous daughter and their Nobel colleague from detention.

How can these visitors embarrass us when their mission is purely in the interest of mankind whereby one is entitled to that alienable right to think, speak and act freely without hindrance from megalomaniacs, despots and the like? Last May we told ourselves and the world at large that this is exactly what we wanted. And to get it we paid dearly with an unsubstantiated number of deaths and injuries, the worst since the 1976 student uprising.

Unlike us, Burma's Aung San Suu Kyi and her people were not that fortunate. Their popular uprising of 1988 against the military dictators failed miserably. Thousands were killed by the military and no quarter given to the people who clamoured for a democratic government. To this day the Burmese people continue to suffer at the hands of the brutal regime as the latter grows stronger day by day exploiting the people and the country's rich natural resources aided and abetted knowingly or unknowingly by her giant neighbour China and member countries of Asean.

During their visit to Thailand the Nobel laureates, Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa, former Costa Rican president Oscar Arias, Adolfo Perez Esquivel of Argentina, Mairead Maguire of Northern Ireland, and a representative of Amnesty International have plans to visit the Thai-Burmese border town of Mae Sot where they are to meet thousands of Burmese refugees who have fled to Thailand to escape from Rangoon's attacks against ethnic minority and pro emocracy guerrillas and get a first hand knowledge of the plight of these people.

Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri has cautioned the Nobel Prize winners not to embarrass Thailand by using it as a platform to interfere in Burma's internal affairs as it has good relations with that country. A representative of the Canada-based International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development has assured Thai officials that the group has no intention of doing such a thing. This we will have to wait and see when the group arrives on February 16.

Mr Prasong admits that he knows about the human rights situation of Thailand's neighbours to the west. But there's nothing he can do about it. It seems Mr Prasong's hands are tied because of Thailand's "constructive engagement" policy in dealing with the military regime in Rangoon, and also probably because his party, PDP [Phalang Tham Party], as a member of a coalition government has to work in harmony with the four other parties to ensure the stability of the present administration. If our memory serves us well Mr Prasong, before the elections, was saying something about reviewing Thailand's policy towards its western neighbour.

"We don't like what is happening in Burma" said former premier Anan Panyarachun while serving in the caretaker government after the May bloodshed. "We wish things were different in Burma," he said, and also hoped that the military government would free Suu Kyi. "But at the same time," he added "in an Asian way, irrespective of my likes and dislikes for certain policies of certain regimes, it is none of my business to tell them what to do with their country. If they decide to go down the drain it is their decision."

Burma has certainly gone down the drain. But this doesn't mean we have to be dragged down with it by closely associating with a government that is being categorised as a "pariah" by the international community because of its blatant and shameless abuse of human rights against its people. And we as a member of standing in the international community should continue to uphold our image as a nation which cherish freedom and respect the rights of our fellowmen. For human rights after all boils down to the simple fact of one human being treating another human being with respect and dignity. There can be no other way.

Karen Villagers Returned to Burma

BK0102021993 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 1 Feb 93 p 3

[Text] Mae Sot—Border Patrol Police and self defence volunteers yesterday morning pushed back some 400 Karen Burmese villagers across the Tak border into Burma.

The action was taken after the villagers complained that the flood of illegal Karen immigrants had caused a rise in robbery, murder and rape.

They also accused the Karens, who fled fighting inside Burma, of being the carriers of such diseases as malaria and diarrhea.

The Karens have also been encroaching on forest reserves in the province cutting down trees to build homes in Ban Mae Konkaen and Ban Huay Mahawong in Mae Sod district.

About 50 Border Patrol Policemen and self defence villagers started rounding up the Karens at about 5 a.m. yesterday to push them back across the border.

Mae Sot District officer Kasem Watthanatham said he was coordinating with the Immigration Division, the military and the police to find measures to prevent recurrence of such incidents.

The district-office will initiate a public relations campaign to inform employers in Mae Sot that hiring illegal immigrants and giving them shelter was a violation of the labour and immigration laws and could lead to 10-year imprisonment and 100,000 baht fine.

Saudi Diplomat Threatens To Close Embassy

BK3001022593 Bangkok THE NATION in English 30 Jan 93 p A1

[Text] Prime Minister Chuan Likphai said yesterday it would not be surprising if police investigators could not find additional evidence in the jewellery theft case and the murders of three Saudi diplomats a few years ago.

Meanwhile, a Saudi diplomat confirmed yesterday he had threatened to ask his government to close down the Saudi Embassy for security reasons.

"We cannot wrap up the investigation in a short time as there still has not been any progress in the cases even though the previous governments tried to settle them," Chuan told reporters at Don Muang Airport.

"It is just like some other cases in which we can't find further evidence. It would not be surprising if we can't find any other evidence in these cases," he added.

The premier said, however, that the Interior Ministry is trying its best to finalise the cases.

Chuan's remarks came after the Saudi charge d'affaires, Muhammad Sa'id Khujah, was quoted as threatening to shut down the Saudi embassy in Thailand on security grounds.

Khujah confirmed yesterday that he told members of the House committee on labour and social welfare that he would ask his government to consider closing the embassy here within the next few months if his own and his embassy staff's safety could not be assured.

"If I don't feel safe here, I should not be staying here," he told TV Channel 7.

The diplomat expressed his dissatisfaction after Thai police failed to make any progress in the murder cases of Saudi diplomats in 1989 and 1990, the abduction of a Saudi businessman and the theft of the jewellery.

A Thai worker, Kriangkrai Techamong, was arrested and charged with stealing the gems from Prince Faysal's palace in 1989. But only 30 per cent of the stolen jewellery was returned to Riyadh by Thai police, Prince Faysal reportedly said in an April 1990 letter to former prime minister Chatchai Chunhawan.

Khujah said yesterday that his government was unhappy with the way Thai police kept changing their theories about these cases.

The diplomat said if Thai police could not resolve the cases, they should tell the Saudi government so. He said he would find such an admission and an apology from Thai authorities to be "acceptable".

Interior Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut yesterday played down the Saudi diplomat's threat, saying he did not mean what he said.

"We have to do our best with the investigation. But we should be given some more time," Chawalit said. "However, I don't think diplomatic relations between the two countries would be affected. The two monarchs still maintain good relations."

Deputy Interior Minister Den Tomina said yesterday the Interior Ministry would try to wrap up the cases because the threat by a country to close its embassy was not a minor thing.

Asked whether the Interior Ministry would contact the Saudi Embassy to patch up misunderstandings, Den, a Muslim MP from Narathiwat province, said that was a matter for the Foreign Ministry.

Soemsak Karun, chairman of the House Committee on labour and social welfare, yesterday quoted Khujah as saying he would be glad if Kriangkrai, the man arrested in the the case, was allowed to go to Saudi Arabia to reenact the offence. The diplomat believed the theft was carried out by many people, he added.

In a related development, Deputy Permanent Secretary for Interior Ari Wong-arya, in his capacity as chairman of a committee scrutinizing investigatory reports on the murder cases, instructed deputy Metropolitan Police Commissioner Pol Maj Gen Sophon Warachanon to discuss the latest investigation before a meeting at the Interior Ministry on Feb 1.

Minister Meets Iranian, Lao Envoys on Trade

BK2901071793 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon on Wendsday met Iranian and Lao ambassadors to discuss bilateral trade with Thailand. The minister said that Iranian Ambassador Gholam Reza Yusefi informed him that Teheran would like to expand trade with Thailand. Iran has been buying rice from Thailand and selling oil in return. The minister asked Iran to act as a middle man between Thailand and former Soviet Union states for the exchange of goods, as those new states have been interested in Thai rice and have close contacts with Iran. Also Iran has been asked to reduce transportation procedure and to solve problem of long-delay in debt payment by Iranian importers. The ambassador told Mr. Uthai that certain adjustment would be needed in his country's banking system, which will get better in time.

Ambassador of Lao People's Democratic Republic, Bounkeut Sangsomsak, on his part, offered coffee, kapok, and soybean to Thailand. The minister said that kapok and soybean would be carefully study and decided on. Thailand has her own coffee production in surplus at present.

Businesses Offered Incentives To Move

BK2901014193 Bangkok THE NATION in English 29 Jan 93 p A2

[Text] Export and local content requirements on new projects will be scrapped in the 57 less-developed provinces which comprise Economic Zone 3, the Board of Investment [BoI] committee decided yesterday.

It also approved greater tax incentives for factories set up in industrial estates in Zone 2 (Samut Songkhram, Ratchaburi, Kanchanaburi, Suphan Buri, Angthong, Ayutthaya, Saraburi, Nakhon Nayok, Chachoengsao and Chon Buri).

Additional incentives will also be granted to projects in Zone 3. Privileges for Zone 1 (Bangkok and five surrounding provinces) remain unchanged.

Sawit Phothiwihok, the minister overseeing the BoI for the PM's [Prime Minister's] Office, said the measures approved yesterday will support the government policy of extending industrial development into the provinces.

Here are details of yesterday's BoI decisions:

—The income tax break available for Zone 3 projects will be increased from six years to eight years. Import duty on machinery currently subject to a 5 per cent tax will be exempted.

There will also be a maximum 90 per cent exemption of import tax on raw materials and other necessary items imported for promoted projects. The final percentage will be decided after weighing the likely impact on existing and non-promoted business.

BoI secretary-general Sathaphon Kawithanon said export and local content requirements would be scrapped on projects with majority Thai ownership. Where foreign capitalization is more than 50 per cent, the projects will still be subject to export rules. Currently, 57 types of business are subject to the rules.

If projects are wholly foreign-owned, they cannot sell more than 20 per cent of output locally. The BoI, meanwhile, will review the criteria on joint ventures so that they fit the new environment.

—Zone 2 projects in industrial estates will have their income tax break increased from five years to seven years. Factories relocated from Bangkok and its environs to other provinces will have the same entitlement.

A proposal to create a new zone (Zone 4) for industrial promotion was not supported by the BoI.

Sathaphon said a special subcommittee will follow up on policy matters to ensure that the expansion of Thai industry is consistent with the government's policy and that Thai firms are competitive in the world environment.

Investment in Zone 3 has so far been minimal, he said accounting for only 20 per cent of total investment, including factories and services such as hotels. Factory investment accounts for only 10 per cent.

Projects approved for BoI privileges but which have not been launched will be reconsidered for the increased incentives, he said.

Neutral, Impartial Stance Urged on Spratlys

BK3001032593 Bangkok THE NATION in English 30 Jan 93 p A6

[By Kawi Chongkittawon: "China still the aggressor in Spratlys"]

[Text] Thailand must remain as impartial as possible in the widely disputed Spratlys issue, which is likely to drag on in the foreseeable future. If desirable, Thailand can play the role of peacemaker in trying to mediate among the six claimnant countries, which are friendly to Thailand. But the effort must be part of a collective one aimed at establishing multilateral dialogues.

Besides China and Vietnam, Taiwan, the Philippines, Malaysia and Brunei also claim all or part of the Spratlys, a far-flung archipelago in the southern South China Sea that counts 33 islands and at least 100 more islets, banks and reefs.

The Spratlys dispute has rankled the minds of Thai experts—in the Foreign Ministry, the Royal Thai Navy, the Fishery Department and other concerned organizations—after tensions were renewed when China claimed sovereignty over the group of islands and atolls by awarding a oil and gas exploration contract to an obscure Denver-based oil company, last year.

This concern was also echoed by Asean, and at the regional grouping's foreign ministerial meeting in Manila last July, security in the South China Sea was discussed extensively with the dialogue partners, as well as China, Vietnam and Russia.

However, at that time, Thai delegates were caught off guard when the Thai government had to endorse the Asean Declaration on South China Sea to go along with Asean consensus. It was ex-Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun who gave the green light for former Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin to sign the declaration, without whom the decision would not have been made in the first place. That was the first time Thailand had really made its position, along with Asean, known on the Spratly disputes.

Be that as it may, Dr. Arun Phanuphong, a well-known Thai lawyer and retired diplomat, thinks Thailand should keep a close watch over the situation in the group of islands, as it could affect Thailand's interest and position in the region.

Arun, who served as deputy foreign minister under the Prem Administration expressed concern that China had the desire to assert control over the whole archipelago as indicated by Beijing's repeated assertion that the disputed territories were under their control through historical evidence and claims.

"Chinese claims cannot be substantiated," Arun told the roundtable discussion "Problems in the Spratlys", organized by Southeast Asian Programme in Ocean Law, Policy and Management at Chulalongkon University on Tuesday.

"China just wants to flex its muscles. It is good for China but other countries will not accept it," said Arun, referring to China's effort to gain the sovereignty over the Spratlys.

Arun said that the Spratly areas are rich with marine and natural resources, strategically located and are the nerve of sea-lane communications in the South China Sea.

"It is very dangerous indeed to see any single country taking control of the whole area," Arun said, referring to China.

In the post-Cold War world, he sees China's move in the Spratlys as an attempt to fill in the power vacuum in areas affected by the withdrawal of US bases from the Philippines.

"China is trying to set up a forward position in the Spratlys [in order to have a command strategic position in the South China Sea], he reiterated.

A Thai foreign ministry official, who is dealing with the Spratlys, said that China's position and its explanation over its occupation of the islands have not removed fear and suspicions from Asean countries.

The official, who spoke in his personnel capacity and asked for anonymity, said that the new law, which China promulgated in February last year, reaffirming Chinese sovereignty over the South China Sea islands showed Beijing's real intention.

"China took 40 years to work on this law," he said, pointing out the law also forbids any passage of warships across the Spratlys without first obtaining permission from the Chinese government.

The official, who attended all the previous workshops on South China Sea organized by Indonesia, said such an assertion contravenes international law. He also disclosed the Thai government is planning to lodge a protest to Beijing very soon over the tensions caused by China over the islands. Currently, senior Foreign Ministry officials are working on the content of the protest note.

Other participants also concurred with the assessment that China's assertion and aggressiveness could spell trouble for future negotiations and have ramifications in the region.

Contrary to the Foreign Ministry Official, they expressed concern that Thailand seemed to be getting too close to Beijing and giving the impression that it is accommodating China in the Spratlys issue.

One participant pointed out that at the Asean meeting in Manila and the Nonaligned Movement (Nam) Summit meeting in Jakarta last year, Thailand helped to tone down the language in the Asean Declaration on South China Sea and the final communique on political situation in the Spratlys to avoid offending Beijing.

He added, Vietnam, China's main contender over the Spratlys, sought support of Asean over the dispute, when Hanoi was granted observer's status in the regional grouping's ministerial meetings. Asean however was noncommittal due to fears of being sucked into another Sino-Vietnam conflict.

He believes that Thailand's neutrality could be jeopardized if Bangkok does not take an impartial view.

The roundtable discussion also focused on the nature of each the six countries' claims and how the disputes could be settled.

Arun said negotiating through legal international channels and establishing joint development areas would make progress in trying to settle the disputes. However, he stressed that there must be a political will for it.

He suggested that the setting up of a "special team" to deal with the complicated issue would help settle the islands' dispute in the long-term.

The idea to call for an international conference, where one or more neutral hosts, could be co-chairmen, can help assure the six countries that all their claims would be looked into. But Arun said China's acquiescence is necessary as it continues to reject any calls that will internationalize issue.

"China prefers to deal on an one-to-one basis," he said.

Meeting Arranged With Malaysia To Discuss Ties

BK0102073093 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in english 0000 GMT 1 Feb 93

[Text] Thailand and Malaysia will hold a joint meeting from 8 to 10 February to discuss bilateral relations. Supreme Commander Air Chief Marshal Waranat Aphichari said after returning from a trip to Malaysia on Saturday that the Thai delegation at the meeting will be headed by Defense Minister General Wichit Sukmak, while the Malaysian side will be led by the Malaysian interior minister. Air Chief Marshal Waranat also said his visit to Malaysia was to familiarize himself with his Malaysian counterpart. He had earlier met with defense ministers of the other ASEAN countries, except Brunei Darussalam. The supreme commander, confirming good relations between Thailand and Malaysia, said a regional committee had been set up by both countries for over 35 years in order to solve the Thai-Malaysian problems. At the initial stage, emphasis was placed upon communist suppression; at present, Thailand and Malaysia are looking for closer economic and social cooperation as well as military relations.

Goverment, Military To Provide Drought Relief

BK3101013493 Bangkok THE NATION in English 31 Jan 93 pp A1, A2

[Text] The government and the army are preparing to provide massive relief aid to villagers facing a severe drought that could worsen this year.

Prime Minister Chuan Likphai yesterday said the drought situation during this year's dry season (March to June) is expected to be the worst in 5 years, and the government is prepared to cope with the crisis.

Army Commander in Chief Gen [General] Wimon Wongwanit, meanwhile, said the army has reserved Bt [Baht] 47 million for relief aid to drought-hit areas this year.

Chuan said the national committee on drought relief will meet at Government House on Thursday to coordinate assistance programmes for several provinces that could be affected.

The committee would receive reports on drought problems from the Interior Ministry, the Agriculture Ministry and the Irrigation Department and will study the information to plan relief operations, he said. Chuan was speaking during an inspection tour of Ubon Rachathani yesterday.

He said the governors of Ubon Rachathani, Si Sa Ket, Surin, Buri Ram and Khon Kaen provinces had told him they were prepared to cope with a severe drought.

He urged officials to ensure public wells at drought-prone villages were reconditioned before April 1 so they could hold enough water during the dry season.

Chuan said the government had earmarked Bt50 million in a special allocation to dredge canals in the provinces to improve the flow of irrigation water to downstream areas.

Gen Wimon said yesterday the army had set aside Bt47 million this year as part of a regular budget allocation for drought assistance.

The army would provide manpower, equipment and vehicles for relief operations, he told reporters after presiding at the opening of a testing ground for military vehicles in Kanchanaburi's Tha Muang district.

The four army regions had been instructed to survey their areas and estimate the number of people likely to need assistance.

Helping drought victims is a regular mission the army has been undertaking for years. If the budget the army reserved for the drought relief this year is not enough, it will ask for more money from the government, Wimon said.

Vietnam

'No Preconditions' for Normalization With U.S.

BK3001152393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0015 GMT 30 Jan 93

["Article" by station correspondent Tieu Lien: "No Preconditions for the Normalization of U.S.-Vietnamese Relations"]

[Text] The fact that the U.S. Government has set conditions for its continued embargo against Vietnam has drawn unusually strong reactions from world opinion.

Earlier, people hoped for a change in the internal and external policies of the new Clinton government. It is regrettable, however, that under the pressure of those hardliners who have not forgotten the Vietnam syndrome, the U.S. Government has failed to meet the aspirations of the Vietnamese and American peoples.

For a long time now, Vietnam has repeatedly declared that it considers the MIA issue purely a humanitarian question that should not be linked with any political issues. In the recent past, despite the absence of normalized U.S.-Vietnamese relations, Vietnam has been ready to cooperate with the U.S. side in solving the MIA issue.

Following an investigative process marked by public hearings at which 23 testimonies were given; many trips to Southeast Asia, as well as to Moscow and Korea; and the scrutiny of thousands of documents, the U.S. Senate Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs has made public a report on this issue in which it has acknowledged the full cooperation of the Vietnamese side.

Senator John Kerry, chairman of the U.S. Senate Select Committee on POW/MIA Affairs and the man who personally came to Vietnam several times, himself said the Vietnamese Government had surrendered all the documents the U.S. side had asked for and that the U.S. side had even been allowed to go anywhere it wanted to search for missing Americans.

With such positive progress, it is hoped the MIA issue will no longer be an underwater shoal obstructing U.S.-Vietnamese relations. Regrettably, so far a number of hardline officials in the U.S. Government have still deliberately refused to accept this fact and continued to see the POW-MIA issue as a price to be paid, and have set conditions to link it to the normalization of relations with Vietnam.

The world public has asked: Then, what do they want from the POW-MIA issue?

Regarding the Cambodian issue, Vietnam is committed to satisfactorily implementing the Paris peace agreement on Cambodia and to contributing to accelerating the process of peace in that country.

Mr. Akashi, a special envoy of the UN secretary general and head of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC], also affirmed the commitment of Vietnam to implement the agreement. And he is very pleased with Vietnam's cooperation with the UNTAC.

It is Vietnam's position to respect Cambodian sovereignty on the basis of respect for the sovereignty and security of nations. Vietnam wishes to see the return of peace and independence in Cambodia in order to meet the desire of the Cambodian people, and also the Vietnamese people, to live in peace and friendship.

We respect the sovereignty of all independent nations. Meanwhile, we will also firmly maintain our sovereignty. Prisons and reeducation camps can be found in any country and this is the internal affair of those countries. Due to its humanitarian policy and its good reeducation methods, over the years the Vietnamese state has on several occasions released prisoners, allowing them to return to their family life. There are many cases where the released prisoners have engaged in trade and earned quite a fortune.

Since 1986, Vietnam has begun carrying out economic renovation and adopting the policy of diversifying international relations. U.S. businessmen have strongly called on the U.S. Government to lift its embargo against Vietnam so they can be on an equal footing with other businessmen in doing business with Vietnam. Recently, 68% of the Americans interviewed in an opinion poll protested the U.S. embargo policy, viewing it as detrimental to the interests of the U.S. business circles and the U.S. people as a whole.

Senator John Kerry himself also uttered: As Vietnam is acting with goodwill, the U.S. Government should also act likewise and advance step by step toward the ultimate goal of promoting better relations between the two countries.

The fact that the new Government of the United States has set more conditions for lifting its embargo against Vietnam and is delaying efforts to normalize relations between the two countries is arousing indignation among the public of the United States and the world.

The relatively tough stance adopted by the U.S. Government toward U.S.-Vietnamese relations and even in international relations has caused erosion of U.S. public confidence in the Clinton administration's handling of its foreign policy.

The Vietnamese people always want to have good relations with people in other countries, including the American people. But we also believe relations between nations should be built on the basis of mutual respect, equality, and mutual benefit, and noninterference in each other's internal affairs.

Proceeding from this principled stance, Vietnam thinks there should be no preconditions for the normalization of relations between Vietnam and the United States. Vietnam is ready to move toward normalizing its relations with the United States because this meets the interests and aspirations of the two peoples in line with their interests and in line with peace and stability in the Southeast Asian region and the world over.

U.S., Allied Attacks on Iraq Discussed

BK2901114493 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 19 Jan 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] Over the last few days, the United States and its allies have repeatedly launched new attacks against Iraq. Here is our radio's opinion:

In the pretext of forcing Iraq to strictly abide by the UN resolution, the United States and its allies continue their air raids against Iraq. Last Sunday, U.S. F-16 fighter-bombers shot down an Iraqi MiG-29 over the no-fly zone in southern Iraq. At the same time, U.S. warships in the Gulf fired 30 Tomahawk missiles at the target called by the White House a uranium-enrichment center, about 20 km south of Iraqi capital of Baghdad. Iraq, however, said it was not a nuclear center but an engineering plant. And a hotel in Baghdad where foreign newsmen were staying was hit by rockets. One woman was killed and 30 others injured.

According to foreign sources, the United State and its allies are consulting each other for new measures to force Iraq to abide by the UN resolution. Meanwhile, Iraq said that they have obeyed the UN resolution. Right after the attack by the U.S. and allied forces, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn called on Iraqi Armed Forces to fight their invaders. The Iraqi people have held many big demonstrations in Baghdad to condemn the United States and allied attack, and to express their support for President Saddam Husayn.

Public opinion, especially in the Arab (?world), has expressed worries over the event. Yemeni President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih declared the new attack against Iraq as illegal. The Jordanian Foreign Ministry expressed profound concern over the new attack. Meanwhile, thousands of Jordanian people demonstrated against the U.S. and allied attack against Iraq which has increased tension in the region.

Foreign Minister To Visit ROK 'Shortly'

BK2901142493 Hanoi VNA in English 1328 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Jan. 29—Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam will pay an official visit to the Republic of Korea shortly at the invitation of ROK Foreign Minister Li Sang-ok, says a communique released here today by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

Comments on Cambodian Presidential Election

BK2901065993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 20 Jan 93

[Text] Cambodian Foreign Minister Hor Namhong said (?for) the State of Cambodia wants to hold the presidential election in April prior to the general election as stipulated by the Paris agreement on Cambodia. Here is our radio comment on the matter:

Following his meeting with the French foreign minister in Paris, Minister Hor Namhong told newsmen that the presidential election might take place on April 5th. Meanwhile UNTAC [United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia] Chief Akashi has warned the Khmer Rouge that they have to decide immediately now if they still intend to participate in the election as the deadline runs out by the end of this month. He also (?mentioned) that by now, over 90 percent of the Cambodians have registered for the election.

[Words indistinct] on Tuesday, a UN spokesman said there are only 10 days more for the Khmer Rouge to decide whether they participate in the election or not. He said on January 27th, one day prior to the meeting of all SNC [Supreme National Council] members, scheduled to take place in Beijing, all candidates for the election must complete their registration or they will be considered void. Prince Ranariddh said the Khmer Rouge is excluding themselves from the peace process in Cambodia if they do not participate.

The Vietnamese Agency in Phnom Penh, quoting a spokesman for UNTAC, said that the registration for election started on January 14th and then on January 27th. Any party who wants to stand for the election should have at least 5,000 signatures from voters and the lists of candidates must be presented to voters in those localities. Each candidate is allowed to stand for election in one electorate only. By now, some 20 parties have temporarily registered with UNTAC.

French President To Visit 'Very Soon'

BK0102123093 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 1 Feb 93

[Text] The SRV Foreign Ministry on 1 February issued a statement saying that at the invitation of SRV President Le Duc Anh, French President Francois Mitterrand and his wife will pay an official visit to Vietnam very soon.

Decision Issued on Ho Chi Minh City Planning

BK3001062093 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 20 Jan 93

[Text] On 16 January 1993, the prime minister issued Decision No. 20 on Ho Chi Minh City planning.

The decision says that Ho Chi Minh City is the biggest national industrial center; a scientific, technological, and financial trading center; and a convenient exchange juncture for South Vietnam, the entire nation, and the world. It emphasizes that planners must pay attention to the relations between Ho Chi Minh City with the region, entire nation, and the world.

Planning is not confined only to Ho Chi Minh City but must calculate on the reasonable division and mutual assistance with other cities in the region and the nation. On the other hand, city planners must take into consideration the background of the quickly developing scientific and technological revolution, which has entered the postindustrial period, in order to appropriately define the orientation of city construction and development. Planners must optimally develop Ho Chi Minh City's potential and its position in national and international exchange. It must exploit the advantages of a late coming country to avoid consequences that many developed countries have had to face in concentrated urbanization strategy.

The decision also mentions some practical issues in planning and construction of Ho Chi Minh City: The city must combine development with improvement by both building new projects and correcting the city's unreasonable structure, which was left over by the history.

Premier Addresses Ho Chi Minh City Meeting

BK3001102093 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Amid a jubilant atmosphere in the early spring of the year of rooster, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet spent all of 28 January holding a working session with the People's Committee and with various key leaders of Ho Chi Minh City over the city's 1993 socioeconomic tasks.

Attending the session together with the prime minister were Vice Premier Phan Van Khai and various cabinet ministers such as Le Van Triet, Ngo Xuan Loc, Le Xuan Trinh, and other comrades in charge of various government organs.

Comrade Truong Tan Sang, on behalf of the city people's committee, briefed the prime minister on the situation in the city. He dealt chiefly with various working norms and tasks to be carried out and problems to be encountered in 1993. He also presented many suggestions of the city to the government.

A number of comrades in the city people's committee and the city party committee expressed their views, further elaborating on the various aspects of the situation and tasks of the city.

Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet contributed many substantive views during the session. He urged the city to make full use of various sources of revenue to ensure regular budgetary spending. As for the building of the infrastructure, the prime minister advised that priority should be given to making concentrated and effective capital investments in various bridge, road, electricity, and water projects.

At the same time, efforts should be made to tackle social vices, trying to change the face of the city. As social issues are usually associated with culture [as heard], it is necessary to rectify and build public utility facilities.

The prime minister expressed the hope that the city would take concrete measures to mobilize all latent potential to effect a significant change for the better in the city in the New Year.

Le Duc Anh Greets Defense Inspectorate

BK2901143793 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 24 Jan 93

[Letter from President Le Duc Anh to the National Defense Inspectorate on its 45th founding anniversary, 25 January 1948-25 January 1993; date not given]

[Text] On the glorious founding anniversary of the national defense inspectorate, on behalf of the party and state, I would like to convey my kind regards and warm greetings to all cadres, combatants, workers, personnel, disabled and ailing soldiers, families of fallen combatants, and other comrades of the National Defense Inspectorate who have retired from active duty or been transferred to other branches.

Throughout the 45 years of construction and development, cadres and combatants of various generations of the National Defense Inspectorate have practiced esteemed President Ho Chi Minh's teaching that inspectors are eyes and ears of the higher echelons and friends of the lower echelons. Under the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam and the direct guidance of the Military Commission of Party Central Committee and the Ministry of National Defense, and thanks to the assistance, trust, and affection of military and non-military units and organs, party organizations, administrative agencies, mass organizations, and the people in all localities throughout the country, they have always illustrated the revolutionary nature and glorious traditions of the army by remaining unswervingly loyal to the revolutionary cause; practicing frugality, honesty, and impartiality; maintaining unity and playing an exemplary role in the struggle to overcome all difficulties; and staying close to all units and battlefields in an effort to fulfill their inspection assignments. As a result, they have contributed to the glorious victories in the struggle for national liberation and reunification, as well as for the construction and defense of the socialist fatherland and fulfillment of our noble international duty.

On this glorious anniversary, I would like to warmly commend cadres, combatants, workers, and personnel of the National Defense Inspectorate for their achievements during the past 45 years.

May I wish you, comrades, outstanding success in all your undertakings in the days ahead.

Vo Tran Chi at Tet Offensive Anniversary

BK2901144393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 27 Jan 93

[Text] A solemn ceremony was held in Ho Chi Minh City this morning to mark the 25th anniversary of 1968 year-of-the-monkey spring offensive and uprising and the 204th anniversary of the glorious Ngoc Hoi-Dong Da victory. Attending were Comrade Vo Tran Chi, member of the Party Central Committee Political Bureau and secretary of the city party committee, and Comrade Nguyen Huu Tho, chairman of the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee.

Addressing the ceremony, Comrade Nguyen Van Linh, adviser to the Party Central Committee, highlighted the historic significance of the resounding military exploits in our national history under the leadership of our party.

Senior Lieutenant General Tran Van Tra, former commander of the B-2 battlefield in Nam Bo, analyzed the values of the military strategy and superb contributions of national hero Nguyen Hue, of the historic Dong Da victory, and of the 1968 year-of-the-monkey spring uprising of our Army and people. These are the priceless values that are being promoted by our people during the present open-door era of national development.

Decree Issued on Visa Procedures, Travel

BK2901135593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 27 Jan 93

[Text] The government issued Decree No.04-CP on 18 January 1993, providing detailed stipulations for the enforcement of a law governing the entry, exit, residence, and travel of foreigners in Vietnam.

The decree says: Foreigners wishing to enter Vietnam will have to complete procedures to apply for visas at a diplomatic or a consular office, or another overseas Vietnamese representative organ empowered with the granting of Vietnamese visas generally known as the Overseas Vietnamese Representative Office.

A foreigner carrying a passport with visa exemption of a country that has signed a visa exemption agreement with the Vietnamese Government would not have to apply for an entry visa but would have to declare the name of the office, organization, or individual in Vietnam with which he is going to work or stay.

A foreigner can, through an office, organization, or individual in Vietnam, complete procedures to apply for Vietnamese entry visa at the Vietnamese Central Immigration Department [VCID]. The representative office of Vietnam in the foreign country concerned will grant the visa when receiving permission for entry from the VCID.

A foreigner wishing to enter Vietnam or being invited by an office, organization, or individual in Vietnam to make an urgent trip to Vietnam to deal with unexpected problems—for instance, providing technical assistance to an investment project, giving emergency treatment to seriously ill people, working for a rescue mission in an aircrash or a shipwreck, and in areas hit by natural calamities or epidemics—will be authorized to get an entry visa at a Vietnamese point of entry.

Vietnamese entry visas, exit visas, entry-exit visas, and exit-entry visas will each have a valid period of not more than three months or 90 days and can be renewed every three months in accordance with the purpose for entry or exit of each particular case.

In the event that a foreigner wishes to enter Vietnam to carry out an investment project or other contracts on economic, cultural, and technological cooperation, he will be given an entry-exit visa or an exit-entry visa for a period of up to one year or 12 months and his visa can be renewed once every year in accordance with the duration of his cooperative contract in Vietnam.

With regard to those cadres and employees of diplomatic offices, of the representative offices of various international organizations in Vietnam, as well as to those foreign experts or foreigners coming to Vietnam for study or for physical treatment for a period from two years upward may have longer visas in accordance with their tours of duty, their training or physical treatment period.

A Vietnamese visa is good for only one entry. In a case where a foreigner comes to Vietnam to execute an investment project or those contracts on cooperation he has signed with a Vietnamese partner, he or she will be given multiple entry-exit or exit-entry visa for a given period.

A foreign resident in Vietnam wishing to have his visa renewed must complete visa application procedures at an authoritative Vietnamese organ.

The granting of visa extension as well as the amendment and revision of visas for those foreigners entitled to diplomatic or consular immunity privileges will be considered by the Foreign Ministry Consular Department.

As for other foreigners not falling in this category, the granting of visa extention or visa revision for them will be considered by the Interior Ministry Immigration Department.

With regard to the regulations governing the travel of foreigners in Vietnam, the decree points out:

Within 48 hours since his entry into Vietnam, a foreigner must register his residence in accordance with the following stipulations:

1. Foreigners belonging to the following category must register their residence at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs:

—Delegates and accompanied members of a foreign delegation coming to Vietnam for a visit or to do business with the approval of the party Central Committee Secretariat, the president of the state, the chairman of the National Assembly, or the prime minister.

—Members of diplomatic corps, of foreign consular offices, and of representative officers of various UN organizations in Vietnam, including those foreigners who are their family dependents living together with them in Vietnam.

—Other foreigners entitled to diplomatic immunity privileges given by the Vietnamese government.

2. Those foreigners entering Vietnam not in this category must register at the Immigration Department. They are entitled to a nonimmigration visa not exeeding one year or 12 months at the most, since the date of issuance and this visa can be renewed for a period of not more than 12 months each time in accordance with the nonimmigrant purpose of each particular case.

As for those foreigners who are members of diplomatic corps, consular offices, or representative offices of various UN organizations in Vietnam as well those coming to Vietnam for study or physical treatment, they will be given a nonimmigrant visa not exeeding three years—36 months—at the most and their visa can be renewed for a period of no more than 12 months each time in accordance with their tour of duty or their periods of study or physical treatment in Vietnam.

Foreigners in Vietnam are not authorized to reside at or travel about in the following areas and sites:

—Border belts [vanhf dqai bieen giowis] covering various villages or administrative units of corresponding level adjacent to the national border.

—Defense industrial complexes, military installations, border defense works, air and coastal defense fortifications, and other areas and sites that need special protection because of their national security and defense importance as specified by ministers of interior and national defense.

—Temporary off-limit areas determined by the the Ministry of Interior on the grounds of maintaining political security and public order and safety.

Lao State Control Commission Delegation Visits

BK2901062993 Hanoi VNA in English 0606 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA January 29—A high-level delegation of the Lao party and State Control Commission led by its chairman, Maichantan Sengmani, Politburo member, is visiting Vietnam from Jan. 25. It was welcomed by Do Quang Thang, secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee and chairman of the party Control Coomission. While here, the delegation was received by Dao Duy Tung, Politburo member and permament member of the Secretariat of the CPV Central Committee. It held talks with the Control Commission of the party Central Committee and the State Inspectorate of Vietnam. On Jan. 28, the delegation left for Ho Chi Minh City.

Note on Fishery Cooperation Signed With Libya

BK2601082593 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 13 Jan 93

[Text] Mr. Nguyen Tan Trinh, Vietnamese minister of marine products, and His Excellency Miftah Muhammad Ku'aybah, secretary of General People's Committee for Marine Resources, minister and chairman of the Libya-Vietnam Cooperation Subcommittee, signed a note of understanding on Vietnam-Libya fishery cooperation in Hanoi on the morning of 13 January.

The ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in Vietnam, Salih Muhammad al-Hawshi, was present at the signing ceremony.

According to the note of understanding, Libya will invite some 350 specialists in all areas of the Vietnamese marine products-related economic sector to help Libya with fishery development.

Australia

Larger Role in Mideast Peace Process Urged

BK2901072393 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 29 Jan 93

[Text] A group of federal MP's has called on the Australian Government to substantially increase its involvement in the Middle East peace process.

The delegation, which visited Israel, Jordan, Egypt, Iran, and the Israeli-occupied territories late last year, said Australia enjoys considerable goodwill in the region and has good relations with the various parties in the peace process. The delegation leader, Andrew Theophanous, says the visit also made the group cautiously optimistic about the chances for a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

[Begin Theophanous recording] The delegation believes that resolution of the Palestinian dispute could be achieved by the early introduction of meaningful interim self-government arrangements for the Palestinians in the occupied territories, including functional control over land and water resources, with provision for such arrangements to be followed within three to five years by an act of genuine self-determination by the Palestinian people. [end recording]

However, in their interim report released today, the delegation said the recent expulsion of 450 Palestinians from the occupied territories by Israel had undermined the peace process.

Croatian Embassy Opens in Canberra

LD0102103593 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1000 GMT 1 Feb 93

[Text] The Embassy of the Republic of Croatia was opened in the Australian city of Canberra today. Franciscans from the Croatian Catholic mission in Canberra blessed the premises. Neven Jurica, Croatian ambassador in Australia, the embassy's diplomatic staff, and representatives of Croatian clubs and the Croatian community in Canberra attended the opening and the raising of the Croatian flag.

New Zealand

Trade Minister Views GATT, Dumping Charges

LD3001121793 Wellington Radio New Zealand International in English 0900 GMT 30 Jan 93

[Text] There are growing fears the GATT world trade talks are in danger of collapse, as the United States and the European Community continue to battle over trade reform. GATT Director General Arthur Dunkel has ruled out the chance of a settlement before March, when a critical American deadline expires. After March, the United States Congress can debate any proposed GATT deal section by section, opening the way for pressure groups to block ratification.

New Zealand trade negotiations minister Philip Burdon says time is running out:

[Begin Burdon recording] The international community is extremely concerned that unless there's a (?very) real engagement between the U.S. and the EC, there simply won't be enough time to manage the few remaining differences that still exist. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Mr. Burdon wants an immediate investigation into accusations that New Zealand exporters have been dumping hot rolled steel products on the Canadian market. Canada claims New Zealand, Germany, France, Italy, Britain, and the United States have dumped hot rolled steel products at less than fair prices. It has responded by imposing immediate, immediate [repetition as heard] punitive duties on certain flat, hot, rolled carbon steel sheet products. Mr. Burdon says he is concerned to hear that New Zealand is implicated in the dumping allegations, and he'll be asking officials here to investigate.